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Apatang announces candidacy for Saipan mayor. PAGE 7
Cynthia 'Cyndy' Tice passes away at 75. PAGE 7

CNMI braces for FICA taxes for all CW workers, minimum wage hike

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

With the recent five-year extension of the CW program, employers of Philippine nationals working in the CNMI must start withholding and paying Social Security and Medicare taxes under the Federal Insurance Contribution Act or FICA starting Jan. 1, 2015. Employers are also bracing for a 50-cent minimum wage increase on Sept. 30, after getting a reprieve last year.

» **Filipinos on CW status, their employers will have to pay FICA taxes starting Jan. 1, 2015**

See FICA on Page 4

Kilili: Central govt owes PSS, NMC \$10M

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Apart from public schools, the islands' community college is also owed a large amount by the central government, representing unremitted maintenance-of-effort funds due the institution, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan yesterday.

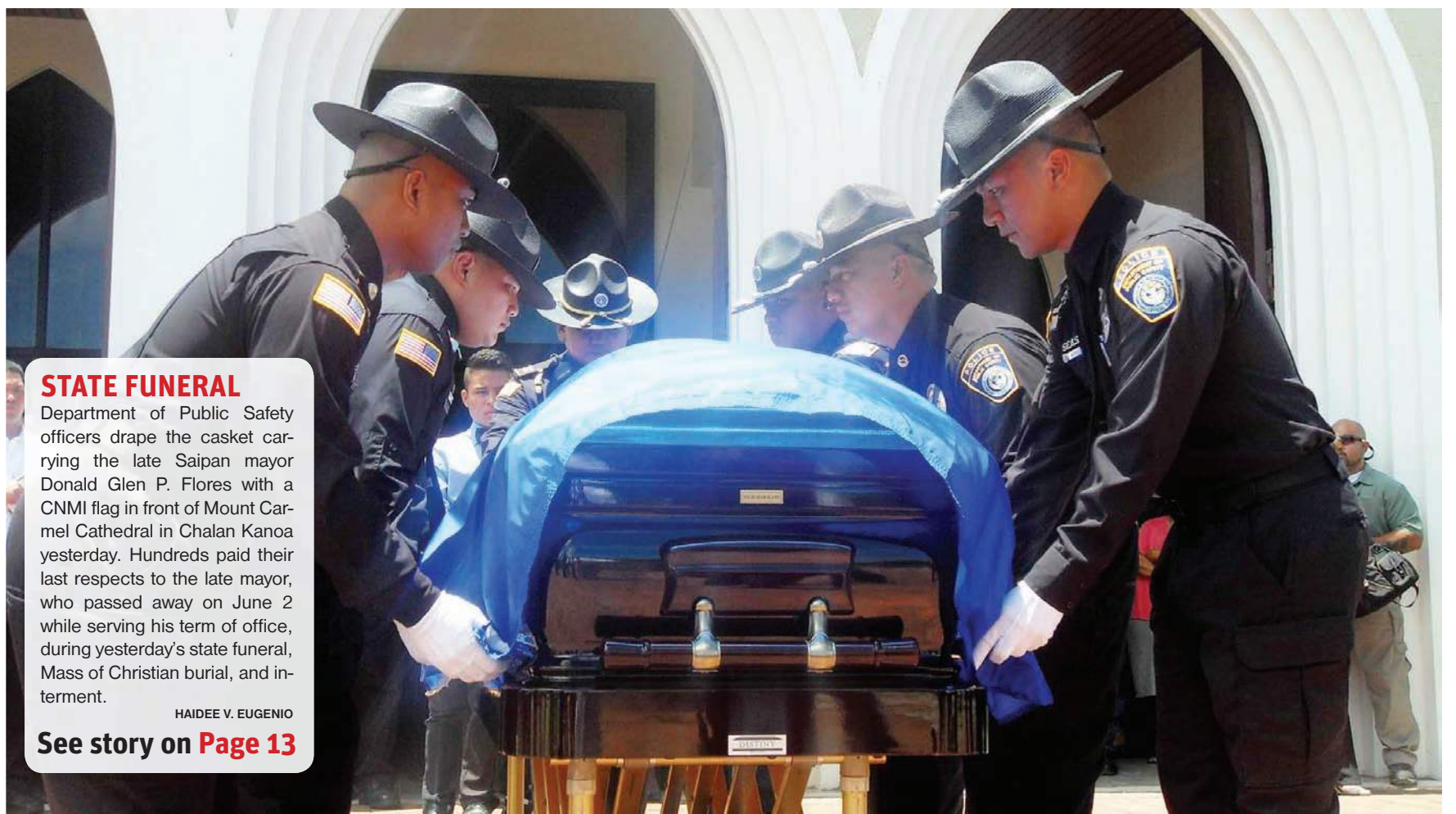
Sablan disclosed that the Inos ad-

ministration owes both the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College a combined \$10 million to date.

» **'Ranking USDOE exec to arrive very soon'**

That maintenance-of-effort funding is a requirement of the U.S. Department of Education when it gave the Commonwealth \$44 million in American Recovery Reinvestment Act funds in 2009. It mandates the local govern-

See KILILI on Page 4



STATE FUNERAL

Department of Public Safety officers drape the casket carrying the late Saipan mayor Donald Glen P. Flores with a CNMI flag in front of Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa yesterday. Hundreds paid their last respects to the late mayor, who passed away on June 2 while serving his term of office, during yesterday's state funeral, Mass of Christian burial, and interment.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on Page 13

INSIDE

LOCAL

The CNMI's speech teams are now ready for the national competition next week.

» PAGE 14



NATION

More than 57,000 veterans have been waiting for their VA medical appointments.

» PAGE 16



LIFE & STYLE

Even Psy is over "Gangnam Style."

» PAGE 21



GOT A **NEWS TIP?**
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Local

Man gets 12-day sentence for beating up girlfriend

Shadel Remeliik Daniel, a 28-year-old band singer accused of beating up his girlfriend, pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace yesterday in Superior Court and was slapped with a 12-day prison term.

Daniel pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace as part of a plea deal.

Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio sentenced Daniel to six months in prison, all suspended except for 12 days, with credit for three days of time served.

This means Daniel shall serve nine more days in prison, starting on June 17, 2014. He is expected to be released on June 25.

After completing the prison

term, Daniel will be placed on probation for one year.

Daniel was required to pay a \$100 fine, plus court and probation costs, perform 100 hours of community service,

and complete anger management counseling.

He is prohibited from consuming alcoholic beverages and from going into bars during his probation. Daniel, however, is

allowed to go to the True North Bar for work.

As part of the plea deal, the remaining charge of assault and battery was dropped.

Chief public defender Doug-

las Hartig appeared as counsel for Daniel. Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda prosecuted the case.

According to police, Daniel and his girlfriend had been drinking at True North Bar on Jan. 11, 2014, on Beach Road when they proceeded with other people to the pavilion across the street and continued their drinking session.

Daniel later confronted his girlfriend why she was talking to his co-worker. He then allegedly held her mouth and

squeezed it hard, causing her to fall to the ground.

Daniel allegedly sat on top of her and continued holding her mouth, prompting her to scream. Her two female friends came and drove her to a store in San Jose, where they called police.

The victim sustained bruises on the face and arm. She also complained of back pain.

She told police that Daniel is getting worse as he has been beating her up out of jealousy. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Man in a fake marriage case pleads guilty to lying to feds

A man in sham marriage case entered a guilty plea in federal court yesterday.

Md. Shahadat Hossain, 45, a Bangladeshi national, pleaded guilty to false statement as part of a plea deal.

A conviction of false statement carries a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and a three-year supervised release.

Hossain will be sentenced on Oct. 24, 2014.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson vacated the jury trial set for June 23, 2014.

Munson allowed Hossain to remain free while awaiting sentencing.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Feb. 25, 2013, Hossain lied to Homeland

Security Investigations special agents when he said that he lived with his then-wife, Rosita Hossain, "in an apartment on McArthur St. up Gualo Rai Rd" and that he lived with her in that apartment since December 2011.

Court-appointed counsel Michael Evangelista served as counsel for Hossain. Assistant U.S. attorney Ross Naughton prosecuted the case. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Surveillance camera leads to arrest of suspect in burglary

A surveillance camera reportedly led to the identification of Conrad Anthony Borja Iba, an ex-convict who was allegedly behind the burglary at a laundry shop in Chalan Kanoa last month.

Iba, 37, was arrested Friday in China Town on charges of burglary and theft. His bail was set at \$50,000 cash.

Preliminary hearing will be on June 17 at 1:30pm.

Police detective Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that he was driving a police car along Chalan Kanoa Road in Chalan Kanoa on March 22, 2014, when a cashier at Shany Laundry and Poker flagged him down.

Camacho said the cashier told him that someone went into the storage room of Shany Laundry and stole "350 coins" that were kept in buckets.

The cashier disclosed that their maintenance worker dis-

covered the coins missing on May 20, 2014. She disclosed that the suspect was captured by the surveillance camera during the incident that happened on the night of May 19, 2014.

Camacho said he reviewed the footage and identified the person who entered the storage room as Iba.

Camacho said he told the cashier that at that same date and time, he was driving an unmarked police vehicle at the back of Shany Laundry and spotted Iba walking out from the laundry.

Camacho said Iba walked fast and immediately turned to the left when he saw the unmarked police vehicle.

The detective said that Iba had been arrested several times in the past for various criminal offenses and is currently on probation. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



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BEST SUNSHINE

International

Appointees to scholarship's governing board pending



'THANK YOU, PASTOR'

Rota lawmakers present Monday on Capital Hill a framed copy of a legislative delegation commemorative resolution to Pastor Connie Chandler, second from left, commending her dedication and distinguished service to the CNMI people. Chandler moved to the CNMI in 1998 and has since called the islands home, serving as teacher for Grace Christian Academy on Tinian, Grace Christian Academy on Saipan, and then teacher/principal for Grace Christian Academy on Rota from 2009 to present. In photo are, from left, Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota), Chandler, Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), and Senate vice president Victor Hocog (R-Rota).

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House panel wraps up 2015 budget hearings

The House Ways and Means Committee wrapped up on Monday its agency budget hearings, and will now begin drafting a budget bill that will spell out where the \$134 million in projected revenues available for appropriations for fiscal year 2015 will be spent.

Committee chair Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) said most agencies will get the budget that Gov. Eloy S. Inos proposed in his submission to the

Legislature, but there would be adjustments in certain critical programs such as medical referral.

Sablan reminded agencies that giving more to one agency means cutting from other agencies.

"If we're going to give anybody else more than what they have on the current budget proposal, we have to take it from somebody, so that's the critical thing. It's taking from somebody else to give to some-

body," he said.

The Ways and Means Committee's last agency hearing was on the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s budget on Monday.

"Based on Monday's budget hearing, with new CFO on board, they've asked and we've given them an opportunity to revise their projection, budget worksheets... judging from the CEOs statement, I think they're comfortable with what their proposal

is," he said.

The committee chairman said he's also glad that CHC will be implementing some procedural changes to beef up billing and collection.

Sablan also noted that the Medical Referral Program is looking at bringing in more specialists to the CNMI to treat patients here rather than send them off island.

Fiscal year 2015 is from Oct. 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2015. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

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REPORTER

The newly created governing board of the CNMI Scholarship Office has no members yet, but press secretary Angel A. Demapan disclosed that appointments would soon be made.

It was early this year when Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law Senate Bill 18-31, which became Public Law 18-40. This statute created the CNMI Scholarship Office as an autonomous agency, with a governing body that will make decisions for it.

Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* that because of this law, the terms of the previous advisory board was abolished.

At this time, he said, there are no board members yet. The CNMI Scholarship Office has an administrator, Rose Pangelinan.

"Gov. [Eloy S.] Inos is now in the process of vetting potential nominees for this board and will announce his appointments soon," said Demapan.

Based on the Legislature's findings, the idea of having an

autonomous scholarship office with the oversight of a governing board that makes the final decision making would free it from political influence and any other influence that is contrary to the purpose of the scholarship program. The board of directors is tasked to make policy decisions regarding scholarship programs and promulgate rules and regulations to implement them.

The CNMI government continues to see a growing number of students wanting to obtain college degrees here and abroad. This is evident on the data recorded by the CNMI Scholarship Office, which received over a thousand applications for the spring 2014 semester.

The Scholarship Office has two program offerings: the Educational Assistance Program and Honors Scholarship Program. However, the Honors scholarship program has stopped receiving new applicants since fall 2013 semester as a result of the expiration of the sunset provision that created the program.

KILILI

From Page 1

ment to allocate a certain percentage of its annual budget on public education. That percentage is equivalent to 40 cents to \$1 dollar or 25 percent of the overall CNMI government budget. The MOE must come from local funds.

In an interview yesterday, Sablan said that a ranking USDOE official is expected to arrive in the Commonwealth "very soon" and the MOE issue will be among the subjects that will be tackled with the islands' officials and agencies.

"I hope this official would meet with our Legislature and explain to them the potential ramifications of shortchanging our students," said Sablan, who withheld the name of the federal official for now. The official is also set to visit the region.

In March this year, Sablan wrote Inos to remind him of the "serious implications" if the MOE rule is not met pursuant to the agreement signed by parties. Sablan said yesterday that he received a response to this letter but he declined to elaborate on its content.

He told *Saipan Tribune* it is preferable that the MOE issue be worked out by parties before making any announcement of the final resolution.

"I understand that PSS and NMC are owed money...and I don't think the administration denies that. It's now a matter of where to find the money," said Sablan.

Based on the books of the PSS, the central government owes the system some \$7 million in unremitted MOE covering fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

According to Sablan, appropriated funds for both PSS and NMC continue to be reduced resulting in the shortchanging of students' needs. Both PSS and NMC are recipients of federal grants. These funds, however, cannot be used to supplant the local resources, Sablan said.

PSS receives between \$30 million and \$32 million in federal aids each fiscal year, while NMC receives between \$8 million and \$12 million yearly. Both agencies ask for a higher local budget each fiscal year but are given much lower amounts, resulting in multiple challenges for students and staff.

Sablan vowed to continue to help both agencies in looking for additional and new funding from federal sources.

Sablan's office was instrumental in getting \$3.9 million in new funds for PSS beginning this fiscal year 2014. This fund, he said, will continue to go to PSS every fiscal year for the next 10 years.

He also wants to see the No Child Left Behind Act reauthorization to further help PSS and remains optimistic on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act to assist NMC.

Without the allocation of sufficient budgets for both PSS and NMC, Sablan said both institutions will continue to be challenged in the next fiscal year.

The Inos administration submitted a waiver request to the USDOE last year to change the formula used in calculating the MOE. There's no information whether or not the USDOE accepted the request.

It was earlier disclosed that the CNMI may end up returning the \$44 million in ARRA funds it got in 2009 if it fails to adhere to the MOE requirement.

FICA

From Page 1

The transitional CW program, which allows the CNMI to retain some 10,000 foreign workers, has been extended up to Dec. 31, 2019.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), in an interview yesterday, said there won't be any more exemption for FICA taxes for Philippine nationals or citizens after Dec. 31, 2014, and that a 50-cent increase in minimum wage will be in effect on Sept. 30 this year as set by the law that also gave the CNMI control over its 3-mile submerged lands.

"There would be no more extension [of FICA exemption]...And I'm not going to spend political capital on getting this because when we got this, there was an understanding that it would be a one-time exemption. So starting January 1st, expect to start paying FICA," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

In December 2012, the Internal Revenue Service announced that it will not assert that any taxpayer has understated liability for taxes under the FICA "by reason of a failure to treat services performed before Jan. 1, 2015, in the CNMI by a resident of the Republic of the Philippines as employment under section 3121(b) of the Internal Revenue Code."

Sablan said this means CNMI employers would have to withhold and pay FICA taxes for most or all employees regardless of citizenship.

IRS, the U.S. government agency responsible for tax collection and enforcement, said "employers must withhold and pay FICA taxes on remuneration paid to residents of the Philippines who do not hold an H-2 status for services performed as employees in the CNMI after Dec. 31, 2014, unless these workers are eligible for FICA exemption based on some circumstances other than the exemption in section

3121(b)(18)."

Filipino workers under the CW program started paying FICA taxes from late 2011 to 2012 until IRS issued a decision not to assert these taxes. Filipino workers received refunds on the FICA taxes they paid.

Prior to Nov. 28, 2011, Filipino workers were considered exempt from paying these taxes. The CNMI remained on a wait-and-see mode, trying to get clarification from IRS regarding the application of FICA taxes as a result of federalization of local immigration.

Workers from China and Korea, among other foreign workers in the CNMI, have been paying FICA taxes.

"Next year, workers from the Philippines, just like everyone else, have to pay these taxes," the delegate said.

Alex Sablan, president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said yesterday it is "unfair" and "improper" for the U.S. government to "collect taxes from foreign workers

that will not benefit from these taxes and are not provided permanent immigration status."

"This was something we asked for reprieve. But we understand it is now politically unpopular [to ask for another one]. We wouldn't get another reprieve. Employers have to bear the FICA taxes and also the minimum wage increase," the president of the largest business organization in the CNMI said.

The Chamber president added that the economy is "improving" so businesses can sustain a minimum wage increase this year. Last year, the Chamber asked for—and received—a reprieve from the 2013 50-cent minimum wage increase through the delegate and Gov. Eloy S. Inos' help.

The CNMI's current minimum wage is \$5.55 an hour. This will increase to \$6.05 an hour on Sept. 30 this year and on Sept. 30, 2016, and every year thereafter until it reaches the federal wage floor of \$7.25 an hour.

07

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Costales, Dalusong top Hopwood graduates

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two young gentlemen emerged as the most outstanding students of Hopwood Junior High School after being bestowed with high academic honors during yesterday's promotion ceremony on campus.

John Michael Costales was named the class valedictorian and recipient of this year's Board of Education Award. He is the son of Jessica and Sammy Costales.

Amelito Dalusong Jr. was named salutatorian and was bestowed with the Commissioner of Education Award. He is the son of Marissa and Amelito Dalusong Sr.

Hopwood promoted yesterday 502 eighth graders to high school with the theme "What take us back to our past are our memories, what guide us to our future are our dreams."

Academic and leadership awards always come as a big surprise for Hopwood graduates as the honorees are not known in advance.

For this year's top students—Costales and Dalusong—there's no better way to thank their parents than to offer them the fruits of their sacrifices. In their brief



Hopwood's Top 10 awardees gather for a group photo with guests and keynote speakers during their promotion ceremony yesterday on campus.

MONETH G. DEPOSA

remarks, the two dedicated their achievements to their family and shared the honor with fellow graduates for successfully completing middle school.



JOHN MICHAEL COSTALES
Valedictorian
Board of Education Awardee

In his valedictory address, Costales encouraged his peers to continue to persevere to achieve their educational goals.



AMELITO DALUSONG JR.
Salutatorian
Commissioner's Award

"Aim high! Fly high! Go Hilitias!" said Costales.

In his remarks, salutatorian Amelito Dalusong Jr. shared:

"Although I am holding this plaque now, the true essence of achievement will be found in all of us—graduates!"

Eight other students were recognized as recipients of this year's prestigious Top Ten awards. They included Ryan Christian Relucio, Mei Lin, Miguel Andrei Aninon, Ma. Chrizzelle Omotoy, Chloe Hazel Anne Salvosa, Jhon Mendoza, Joyce Anne Nisola, and Isabel Jossie Palacios.

Highest in SAT-10

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan announced yesterday that Hopwood demonstrated anew a remarkable performance this school year, with the school's eight graders achieving the highest scores in SAT-10.

Also this year, only 1 percent of

Hopwood students failed to pass the middle school graduation requirements. The school has over 500 eighth graders this year.

Sablan also asked everyone to take a moment of silence for the late Saipan mayor Donald Flores, whom she described as a constant supporter of Hopwood and PSS.

She also commended the numerous assistance provided by Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP), who was also among the guests of honor yesterday, in finding additional monies for public school needs.

BOE chair Herman T. Guerrero encouraged the graduates to never forget to say "thank you" to their parents and teachers for pushing them to be the best they can be.

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/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/S/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director P&S

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS dates to remember

- June 11-12: Graduation practice in the gym (8:30am-11:30am)
- June 11, 6:30pm: Last PTA meeting for the school year, MHS Dolphin Theater
- June 11-12: Final exams for 9th, 10th, and 11th graders
- June 13, 9am-10:30am: Awards Ceremony, MHS Gym
- June 16, 4pm: Graduation Ceremony, MHS Gym (Early dismissal at 12pm)
- June 19: Last day for students (Early dismissal at 12pm)
- June 24: Report cards are available for pick up
- June 30: Registration deadline for new and incoming 9th grade students
- June 30 – Aug. 8 - Summer and online school
- July 7 – Aug. 1 - Extended year program

For more information, call the Main Office at 237-3206/2/5. You can also check the website, www.marianashighschool.com. (MHS)

John Gonzales LIVE tackles casino

Tonight's *John Gonzales LIVE* will feature the topic "What is the concept of an integrated resort?" with guest Terence Tay, chief operating officer of Best Sunshine International Ltd. The show will air live on TV Channel 14, from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. To participate in the discussion, contact via email: johngonzaleslive@gmail.com; call 287-9413, or text 285-META (6382). The show also rebroadcasts on www.betelnutradio.com

The show will be replayed on Monday, June 16, and Tuesday, June 17. (PR)

David Apatang announces his candidacy for Saipan mayor

» **Vows to continue the work of late mayor Donald G. Flores**

In a prepared statement yesterday, David Mundo Apatang, a retired Army first sergeant, Vietnam veteran, and a five-term member of the CNMI House of Representatives, announced his bid for the Saipan mayoral seat

as an independent candidate.

In his announcement, Apatang said: "I am still in shock, as I was nine days ago today, by the untimely passing of Mayor Donald G. Flores. Mayor Flores was very active in the commu-

nity and has unarguably done a lot for the island of Saipan despite the limited resources

allotted to his office. Without question, Donald's humility and passion for the public service has raised the bar for future mayors."

"That said, I am declaring my candidacy for mayor simply because, like the late mayor, I believe in hard work and active community involvement. Saipan needs a responsive lo-

cal chief executive who will not only meet the calls and needs of the community but one who puts the people first. I am that

person and I vow to provide the community with a high degree of public service that it rightfully deserves."

Apatang's formal announcement comes on the heels of the funeral services and burial of late mayor Flores. (PR)



Apatang

Cynthia 'Cyndy' Tice, 75

Cynthia S. "Cyndy" Tice, a long-time nursing teacher at the Northern Marianas College and lay leader of Saipan's Immanuel United Methodist Church, passed away on Sunday, June 8, 2014, at her home in New Mexico. She was 75 years old.

According to a statement issued by her sister, Cyndy was born in Los Angeles, Calif., on Jan. 3, 1939, to Opal Weimer and William C. Fostvedt. When Cyndy was 7, her mother remarried to Fred A. Tice, and they moved to the northwestern suburbs of Chicago, IL. Fred Tice adopted Cyndy and was a wonderful father to her. He introduced her to Methodism and she was an active member of several Methodist churches over the years.

Shortly after the move, Cyndy joined the Girl Scouts and earned her First Class Award. She remained active in the Girl Scouts wherever she worked and was a life member.

After graduation from the College of Wooster in 1958, she attended Northwestern University School of Nursing, earning her RN degree. The U.S. Peace Corps appealed to her and she served in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) for two years, 1963-65. Then, after earning her MSN at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI, she taught nursing at Arizona State University.

She finally realized her long time desire to serve overseas in 1973 when she began six-year stint working for CARE in Afghanistan. She taught nursing and served as director of nursing at Jamiat Hospital in Kabul. In following years she worked at various times for the World Health Organization, the International Medical Corps, and Project Hope, in addition to CARE. Her work took her not



Tice

only to Afghanistan but also to Bangladesh, Nepal, Thailand, Pakistan, Sudan, Uganda, and Kazakhstan.

The last 12 years of her overseas life was on the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, where she taught nursing at NMC.

Among her honors over the years was the Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Wooster. With her retirement in 2009 she moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, joining her sister and brother-in-law, Jo and John Bloom, who survive her. She is also survived by niece Virginia Aguirre, her husband James and their children, and nephew William Tice, his wife Krisara and their children. Her parents, Fred and Opal Tice, predeceased her along with her brother, Blair C. Tice.

A memorial service will be held at Morningstar United Methodist Church, 2941 Morning Star Drive, Las Cruces, on June 15, 2014, at 2pm. Rather than flowers, please make contributions to the Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest, 9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924, or the Friends of New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces, NM, 88011. (PR)

Committee-to-Elect Babauta-Torres introduces website, Facebook page

Following a three-month listening tour and house-to-house visits, the Committee-to-Elect Juan N. Babauta (Governor) and Juan S. Torres (Lt. Governor), led by campaign chair John S. Reyes, launched yesterday the Babauta-Torres website and Facebook page.

The Babauta-Torres 2014 website provides CNMI electorates the ability to examine the Babauta-Torres forward-looking leadership advantage; the ability to access a synopsis of the Babauta-Torres 21st century leadership mission; and the ability to inde-

pendently assess the Babauta-Torres 21st century alternatives.

More importantly, the Babauta Torres 2014 Website and Facebook provide around-the-clock, 24-7 link for all citizens and electorates interested in engaging the candidates on their real time solutions to the CNMI's long-delayed and unresolved problems over the CNMI's continuing lack of trained workforce, for example.

For more information, visit website at www.babautatorres2014.com and www.facebook.com/Babauta-Torres. (PR)

Summer ukulele classes at JKPL

Summer Ukulele Classes for Beginner and Intermediate at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is now open for registration. The Beginners class will be taught every Wednesday for eight sessions from July 2 to Aug. 20, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. Intermediate Ukulele Class will be every Thursday also for eight sessions, from July 3 to Aug. 21, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

Beginner class is open to anyone who is interested in learning how to play the ukulele. Intermediate Ukulele Class is for those

students who passed the previous Beginner ukulele class.

Minimum age requirement: 8 years or older; adults are welcome. Tuition is \$50. Pre-payment required.

The classes will be held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's Children of our Homeland Library in Susupe

Deadline to register is June 28, 2014.

There will be a minimum enrollment of 15 students and maximum enrollment of 40 students.

Students must provide their own ukuleles and a folder to hold music sheets (Plastic sheet protectors and a 3-ring binder are recommended).

Parents and guardians must sign a Liability Waiver Form on behalf of their participating minor children and must adhere to public library policies and procedures.

For more information, visit your Joeten-Kiyu Public Library in Susupe or call 235-7316 or 235-7322-23, or fax 235-7550. (JKPL)

SUMMER

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* Honda Civic LX retail price \$22,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$364.24 or \$168.11 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$21,854.40.

** Honda Accord LX retail price \$26,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$427.61 or \$197.36 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$25,656.60.

NMC-CREES announces 4-H 2014 Summer Camp

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service (will be hosting the 4-H 2014 Summer Camp from June 23 to July 3 (Mondays through Friday, 8am to 12pm).

The aim of the 4-H 2014 Summer Fun Day Camp is to

provide hands-on activities that will help participants establish life goals to become responsible, productive citizens while having fun in the process.

4-H is a youth development program administered through the Cooperative Extension System of 109 land-grant univer-

sities in the United States and supports more than 6 million young people with programs designed to prepare the youth to step up to challenges in their community.

The camp, which will be held at the NMC As Terlaje campus, will focus on agriculture and will

be open to children between the ages of 8 to 12. Parents and legal guardians may register their children for the camp until Friday, June 20, 2014. The fee for the camp is \$50 and space is limited. To register or to get more information, contact Polly Omechel-ang at 237-6851. (NMC)

Saipan Tech Collective bringing tech jobs to CNMI

Saipan Tech Collective is an emerging group of software developers and entrepreneurs focused on bringing technology related work and skills to the CNMI. The group is mentor-

ing people who want to pursue careers in web development, design, software engineering, or starting a technology related business.

STC encourages both ex-

perienced programmers and beginners to attend the weekly meeting held every Thursday, from 5pm to 7pm starting June 19, at The Shack, located on Beach Road. The informal

meetings consist of working on software projects, startup business ideas, collaboration, and mentorship. More information can be found at fb.com/SaipanTech. (PR)

CULTURES IN WAR

COMBATANTS, ISLANDERS AND SETTLERS IN THE PACIFIC WAR AND AFTERWARD

A ONE-DAY CONFERENCE HELD
IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE

70th Anniversary of the
Battles of Saipan and Tinian

8:30AM - 6:00PM
SATURDAY

JUNE 14
2014

TAGAHALL BALLROOM,
SAIPAN WORLD RESORT

FREE TO THE PUBLIC



The conference is sponsored by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council in cooperation with the 70th Anniversary Organizing Committee and supported by funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the CNMI Office of the Governor, Brunel University, Marine Corps University Foundation, and Delta Air Lines. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in the conference are strictly those of the presenters and do not necessarily represent those of the said sponsors or funding agencies.

For more information, please call (670) 235-4785.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 11, 2006

Rota flights to be suspended

Continental Connection, operated by Cape Air, announced Friday that it would suspend flight services to the Northern Mariana Island of Rota, effective Oct. 12, 2006. The airline cites a number of factors in its decision to suspend the service, including weak market demand and increasing fuel costs. Since the inception of service, fuel costs doubled, which severely impacted the viability of this marginally performing market. Continental Connection began daily service between Guam and Rota on July 1, 2004. The airline worked with the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Guam Visitors Bureau, and the local visitors industry to promote Rota. "In spite of our efforts to promote this beautiful island, the Rota routes performed poorly for us," said Cape Air regional administrator Russell Price.

Business group to focus on alternative energy

Looking at alternative energy sources as a way to reduce the islands' reliance on imported fuel, the local business community will invite regional experts to speak on renewable or alternative energies in this year's Marianas Roundtable. The economic summit is set for August 31 this year. Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Charles V. Cepeda said speakers from Singapore, the Philippines, and Australia "representing the energy field will be invited to speak specifically about alternative energy." The first Marianas Roundtable, which was held in May last year, mainly tackled telecommunications issues.

June 11, 2007

OPA urged to expedite CUC bid protest

A lawmaker has urged the public auditor to act fast on a contractor's protest in relation to the power utility privatization bid. Rep. Stanley T. Torres raised concern that no action has been taken on the protest filed by Telesource CNMI Inc. The company said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. charged unreasonable fees and set vague criteria for the privatization of its power operations. "Given the importance of this CUC endeavor to the participating firms, local businesses, and community members, all parties have an interest in knowing that this procurement is being handled in a timely and appropriate way. "Though there are many lingering questions regarding the timing and structure of this particular procurement, the non-responsiveness of the regulatory and appeal agencies is also a matter of continuing concern," Torres told public auditor Michael S. Sablan in a June 6, 2007 letter.

6 new retirees' pension claims on hold

The NMI Retirement Fund has allowed six government employees to retire but put their benefits claims on hold amid legal issues surrounding the implementation of proportionate pension scheme. "All these applicants (six employees) were allowed to retire, as the Board decided to go through the regular administrative procedures before implementing any change in benefit calculation," said Fund administrator Mark A. Aguon in an e-mail. He said the six individuals are "process-hold applicants" to refer to "employees who applied for retirement benefits, but whose applications were put on hold, because of the uncertainty of the implementation of the proportionate pension plan."

June 11, 2008

General discussion on federalization with DOI

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and a visiting group of federal officials only briefly touched on immigration "federalization" during their meeting yesterday. Doug Domenech, the Department of the Interior's acting deputy assistant secretary for insular affairs, said the U.S. government's nearing takeover of local immigration was discussed "in a very general way."

Fitial cites improved relations with Interior

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said his administration is now enjoying a good relationship with the Department of the Interior. Doug Domenech, the Interior Department's acting deputy assistant for insular affairs, led a team of federal officials on a two-day visit to the Commonwealth earlier this week. In a press conference yesterday, the Interior Department officials announced the approval of a \$50,000 grant for the CNMI's economic study. This is in addition to the \$75,000 that the agency previously released for the project.

Full transition to new middle schools takes effect on July 1

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan disclosed yesterday that three elementary campuses will fully transition to middle schools on July 1—the formal effective date of the PSS New Middle School Concept.

Sablan also disclosed yesterday the names of three individuals who have been selected as administrators of these new middle schools.

Ruth Calvo will be the principal of the soon-to-open Tanapag Middle School. Lynn Mendiola will head the Dandan Middle School. James Sablan will be principal of the San Antonio Middle School.

These middle schools will begin accommodating sixth to eighth graders while their former primary grade students will be accommodated in cluster schools that include Koblerville, San Vicente, and Gregorio T. Camacho elementary schools.

By creating these three new middle schools on island, PSS now has a total of five middle school campuses in addition to Hopwood Junior High and Chacha Oceanview Middle School.

Zoning board now complete

» Igitol is new treasurer

The Saipan Zoning Office board is now complete after the Senate's confirmation of chair Diego Blanco in March.

Blanco joins vice chair Gus Kaipat, secretary Bruce Bateman, treasurer Alice Igitol, and members Joe Ayuyu Jr., Elizabeth Balajadia, and Herman Sablan. Igitol, who rejoined the board in October 2013, was recently named treasurer of the board.

Zoning administrator Therese Ogomoro said her office and the board have been urging the government to complete the seven-member board.

"With the board reaching its max membership at seven, this will help ensure that their meetings and reviews on zoning issues or conditional use applications will not be disrupted and will remain consistent every month," Ogomoro said.

The board initially had only five members and Blanco said that it was a little difficult to reach a quorum if two of the members are sick or if they go off-island.

Ogomoro also told *Saipan Tribune* that they have been fortunate enough to have seven members, because at least four members have to be present to constitute a quorum.

"That's the best thing about it, the members are now complete and help each other to come up with a quorum each

Hopwood is headed by principal Jonas Barcinas while Chacha has principal Vince Dela Cruz.

"July 1st is where everybody [fully] transitions. I already made the assignments [of new administrators], we have identified all our staffing needs, and we're set to go," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday after the promotion ceremonies at Hopwood Junior High School.

The Board of Education approved the middle school concept last year, for implementation in school year 2014-2015.

Regular classes are scheduled to begin on Sept. 2 and the system anticipates about the same enrollment total of more than 10,000 on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Before the school year ends, PSS approved the early registration for the new middle schools for smooth transition and conducted statewide professional developments and trainings for these middle schools' personnel and administrators. Other preparations for the middle schools' transformation, such as the construction of campus fences, are also in the works, including the transfer of collateral equipment

meeting and that applications are heard accordingly through public hearings and zoning matters are revealed in a timely matter," she said.

Blanco said "sometimes we have had problems in establishing a quorum and sometimes we can't reach a decision if less than four members are present but I am now happy that we have a complete board." (*Jayson Camacho*)

and furniture.

Yesterday, Sablan announced before Hopwood graduates and their families that this will be the last promotions ceremony that Hopwood will host the biggest batch of graduates.

Sablan disclosed that beginning school year 2014-2015, Hopwood's enrollment is expected to drop from the current over 1,200 students to only 700 enrollees because of the creation of additional middle school campuses.

"We're moving our students closer to the community... and I thank our Board of Education for that mission," said Sablan, adding that for many years, students-to-teacher ratio in the island's biggest middle school was at a high of 30 students per class.

The PSS Middle School Project is composed of three phases. The initial phase was implemented this school year 2013-2014, which reconfigured the KagES and Chacha Oceanview Middle School. KagES accommodates kindergarten to fifth grade, while Chacha is home to sixth to eighth graders.

Phase 2 of the project include the merger of San Vicente and Dandan elementary schools, creating K-5 at SVES and transforming DES into a middle school. Also included is the merger of Koblerville and San Antonio elementary schools and the creation of a middle school in the area, and the merger of the GTC and Tanapag schools.

In Phase 3, once the Koblerville Junior High School is completed, the PSS management wants this school converted into a high school to relieve overcrowding at Marianas High School.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

DEVELOPER APPLICATION

To Attach Project-Based Vouchers to New Construction or Rehabilitated Rental Units

Primer

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) administers a tenant-based Section 8 program that subsidizes low-income tenants residing in privately-owned housing units. Federal regulations allow the NMHC to use a portion of its funding to attach project-based Section 8 units in new construction and rehabilitation projects.

NMHC may only operate a project-based voucher (PBV) program if doing so is consistent with its PHA Annual Plan, and the goal of deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunities [42 U.S.C. 1437 f(o)(13)].

The principle difference between tenant based and project based assistance is that with the latter, the voucher and subsidy assistance remains with the unit when a tenant moves. Except for units which are occupied by eligible tenants upon the commencement of the project-based contract term, families will be selected from the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's Section 8 PBV waiting list or Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list (in the absence of a PBV wait list) and will be pre-screened for Section 8 eligibility before being referred to the owner. The owner chooses a tenant for occupancy based on their usual screening process. When a family is approved by the owner, they will execute a lease with the owner.

The project-based Section 8 property remains subsidized for the term of the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) contract signed by the owner and NMHC (subject to future availability of appropriations and the availability of funds under the Annual Contributions Contract).

Rent to Owner

The rent is set at the execution of the initial HAP contract. The maximum gross rent will be set at the lesser of: a) 90% of the applicable FMR, b) the HUD-approved exception rent; c) the reasonable rent, or d) the owner requested rent with the exception of units with other subsidy.

The NMHC must perform rent reasonableness test on all contracted units, both at initial HAP and under the following circumstances:

1. When the owner requests for a rent adjustment;
2. When the owner requests to substitute an assisted unit;
3. If there is a change in the allocation of responsibility for utilities; and
4. If there is a 5% or greater reduction in the HUD published FMR.

The contract rent may be adjusted up or down as indicated by the results of the rent reasonableness test. This requirement means that there may be occasions when a PBV rent must be reduced because of verified decrease in rent levels for comparable unassisted units in the PBV community.

Specific regulations governing this form of project-based assistance are set forth at 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 983, dated October 13, 2005. In the event subsequent regulations are published and conflict with any guidance set forth within this document, the NMHC reserves the right to apply the new HUD guidance to the proposals as submitted.

Applicability of Section 19.2 D. of NMHC's Administrative Plan

For certain tax credit units [24 CFR 983.301(c), FR Notice 11/24/08], the rent limits are determined differently than for other PBV units. These different limits apply to contract units that meet all of the following criteria:

- 1) The contract unit receives a low-income housing tax credit under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
- 2) The contract unit is not located in a qualified census tract;
- 3) There are comparable tax credit units of the same bedroom size as the contract unit in the same building, and the comparable tax credit units do not have any form of rental assistance other than the tax credit; and
- 4) The tax credit rent exceeds an NMHC-determined amount (not to exceed 110 percent of the fair market rent or any approved exception payment standard).

For contract units that meet all of these criteria, the rent to owner must not exceed the lowest of:

- (a) The tax credit rent minus any utility allowance;
- (b) The reasonable rent; or
- (c) The rent requested by the owner.

However, NMHC is permitted to use the higher Section 8 rent for a tax credit unit if the tax credit is less than the amount that would be permitted under Section 8. In these cases, Section 8 rent reasonableness requirements must continue to be met.

Exceptions to the Occupancy Cap [24 CFR 983.261, FR Notice 11/24/09]

NMHC may not pay housing assistance under a PBV HAP contract for more than 25 percent of the number of dwelling units in a project unless the units are [24 CFR 983.56]:

- A. In a single-family building;
- B. Specifically made available for elderly or disabled families; or
- C. Specifically made available for families receiving supportive services as defined by NMHC. At least one member must be receiving at least one qualifying service.

Criteria for Selection

- Extent to which the project furthers NMHC's goal of deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunities – 35 points;
- Owner experience and capability to build or rehabilitate housing as identified in the RFP – 30 points;
- If applicable, the extent to which services for special populations are provided on site or in the immediate area for occupants of the property – 0 points;
- Experience as an owner in the tenant-based voucher program and owner compliance with the owner's obligations under the tenant-based program – 25 points; and
- Projects with the lowest percentage of units assisted will be rated higher than projects with a greater percentage of the units assisted - 10 points.

Site Selection Standards

Every PBV owner must demonstrate that their project is consistent with HUD's statutory goal of "deconcentrating poverty and expanding housing and economic opportunities." The NMHC will assess each application in this regard, based on the following HUD-mandated criteria:

- HUD Designated Zone. Whether the census tract in which the proposal will be located is in a HUD-designated Enterprise Zone, Economic Zone, Economic Community, or Renewal Community.
- Significant Revitalization. Whether the census tract in which the proposed PBV development will be located is undergoing significant revitalization.
- Public Investment. Whether state, local, or federal dollars have been invested in the area that has assisted in the achievement of the statutory requirement.
- New Market Rate Units. Whether new market rate units are being developed in the same census tract where the proposed PBV development will be located and the likelihood that such market rate units will positively impact the poverty rate in the area.
- Decline in Poverty Rate. If the poverty rate in the area where the proposed PBV development will be located is greater than 20 percent, the PHA should consider whether in the past five years there has been an overall decline in the poverty rate.
- Education and Economic Opportunities. Whether there are meaningful opportunities for educational and economic advancements in the census tract where the proposed PBV development will be located.

Number of Units to be Assisted with Project Based Vouchers

The NMHC is seeking both for-profit and not-for-profit owners who are interested in attaching project-based Section 8 subsidy assistance to newly constructed units or units requiring rehabilitation work in a housing subdivision or apartment complex. We estimate that we will be able to assist up to 30 project based voucher units under which NMHC will have available at the time of HAP contract execution.

The proposals shall be ranked using a point-based system and project-based vouchers shall be allocated in the following order:

- 1) Proposal with highest points – 15 Project-based vouchers;
- 2) Proposal ranked second based on earned points – 10 Project-based vouchers; and
- 3) Proposal ranked third based on earned points – 5 Project-based vouchers.

If you are interested in this project-based Section 8 initiative, please complete the attached application and return it as instructed. Only applications submitted in response to the advertisement will be considered.

If you have any questions regarding this program or the application process, you are required to submit your questions in writing to Mr. Jesse Palacios, Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950

Timeline

A. Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference

A mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at the NMHC conference room located in Garapan, Saipan on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. The purpose of the Pre-Proposal conference will be to review the requirements of the RFP and to respond to any questions about the application process and HUD regulations governing the project-based program. Attendance at this conference is considered essential to proposer's understanding of the project's elements and a company/organization that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-proposal conference will be considered as a non-responsive proposer.

B. Submission Requirements

Sealed proposals must be marked NMHC-RFP 2014-004. For proposers within the CNMI, one (1) original and three (3) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted not later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2014. Applications should be in a three-ring binder. Deliver applications, in a sealed package with the label indicating the title, "Project-Based Section 8 Application" to:

Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
P.O. Box 500514
Saipan, MP 96950

Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposals by turning in a Notice of Intent to Submit a Proposal. Notice of Intent to Submit a Proposal must be received by the Corporate Director of NMHC no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2014 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 234-9021, or via email at jspalacios@nmhcgov.net. For proposers outside the CNMI, one (1) original and three (3) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 18, 2014, and must be received by NMHC no later than 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 29, 2014. Failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

C. Other Important Information

NMHC hereby notifies all proposers that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contracts entered into pursuant to this advertisement, small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, religion, sex, disabilities or national origin.

D. Award Letters

Funding decisions under this RFP will be made within thirty (30) days of the application deadline. All applicants will be notified by first class mail. The NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all applications.

For more information, contact Jocelyn C. Seman, NMHC Office Manager/Procurement Officer at (670) 234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on CNMI observed holidays.

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS
Corporate Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
DEQ: P.O. Box 501304, DCRM: P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950-1304
DEQ Tel.: (670) 664-8500/01; Fax: (670) 664-8540
DCRM Tel.: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.deq.gov.mp and www.crm.gov.mp



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-2014-X-020 submitted by Blue Water Homes, LLC for the construction of Ironwood Multi-family Housing project on lot no. 694 in Gualo Rai, Saipan. The project includes 80 units of multi-family dwelling complex; community center; covered pavilions with barbecue facilities; water storage; solar power and solar water heater; basketball court; playground; and fenced perimeter and gated access.

The public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 25, 2014, 6:30 PM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality office located in the Gualo Rai Center (GRC) Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The public is invited to attend and make oral comments regarding this project. The project file is open for review and comments during business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office located in the GRC Bldg. in Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304 or fax at 664-8540. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the Division of Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or require further information regarding this project.

Frances A. Castro
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Willing to pay more than 25 cents a year to understand the cosmos?

By B.R. OPPENHEIMER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Studying the universe—perhaps even modern science as a whole—is as American as apple pie and baseball. Although America was not the first country to launch a satellite into orbit, it has, for more than half a century, pioneered the exploration of the universe from the advantageous perspective that sensors, robots and telescopes offer once they are off-world. Looking through a telescope in space—as opposed to one on the ground—is, to an astrophysicist, as revelatory as a child's first sense that shapes and faces are physical, can be touched and explored, and that vision is a meaningful way to understand where one is.

Far from the water-laden, turbulent atmosphere that protects Earth's cozy climate, a telescope can study otherwise invisible aspects of the cosmos: black holes, the evolving structure of the universe, the birthing of stars and our closest, smallest neighbors, some comparable in size to Jupiter, yet roaming the universe alone. We even have evidence that planets similar to Earth may be quite common in orbits around stars other than the sun. These discoveries made by astrophysical experiments in space have completely transformed our view of where we are and how this planet came to be.

Twenty years ago, when I started graduate school at Caltech, if I said I wanted to find planets around other stars, people in the field would laugh and say, "Go watch 'Star Trek.'" Now the study of "exoplanets" is a rich field of research that addresses fundamental questions surrounding our own origins. Much of that knowledge comes from telescopes in space.

This priceless knowledge is a result of the dedicated effort of thousands of people over several decades. It could not have been achieved without the resources and forward-thinking mentality that NASA enables. Today, however, our country's political climate has put this groundbreaking work in jeopardy.

I recently chaired an independent review committee for NASA's astrophysics division to conduct a senior review, the highest-level peer review that division conducts. Our group of 10 experts was tasked with examining the existing telescopes and other types of sensors currently in operation, some in orbit around Earth, others trailing at huge distances and orbiting the sun.

There are 10 current missions, representing an investment of billions of dollars over three decades, including smaller contributions by the European and Japanese space agencies. All of these spacecraft have unique capabilities to render facets of the universe visible for scientific scrutiny, capabilities that probably will never be replicated.

Our committee's charge involved ranking the scientific value of these missions, and helping the senior administration at NASA allocate available funds to ensure the highest-quality science for the next four years. For three weeks, we professors, researchers and other professionals, none of whom was directly involved in any of the projects, deliberated pro bono to develop a plan that would keep the field healthy within the specified budget guidelines.

When we heard what the guidelines were, we were horrified. We estimated that NASA was operating many of these missions at a level that was below 2 percent of the initial construction and launch expenses. Standard management practice suggests that 10 percent of the initial construction cost is a reasonable annual budget for operating a facility. We had to work with a total of \$75 million. That is what the government spends roughly every 10 minutes. It is less than a third of the L.A. Dodgers' payroll in 2014, and represents a

See WILLING on Next Page



Bonham's bon femme

In the historic inauguration of Modi, the newly elected Prime Minister of India, attended by Nawaz Sharif, PM of Pakistan, with Hamid Karzai of Afghanistan and Mahinda Rajapaksa of Sri Lanka, the attempt at bonhomie in the political camaraderie during the event was evident.

The euphoria was shattered by news that a pregnant woman in Lahore was stoned to death by members of her own family for bearing the child of the man she loved rather than kowtow to the practice of family arranged marriage. Her father, arrested for murder, was following the "honor killings" conducted by relatives of women as punishment for alleged "adultery or other illicit sexual behavior," aka not following family elders' lead.

I am colleague to a self-conscious group within the Christian covenant that tries to overcome the normal patterns of patriarchy deeply embedded in the symbol system of 3,000 years of tradition. Renegades of institutional rites and rituals, they try to rearticulate previous metaphorical expressions into existential language that might resonate on the reality of living in our time. Appropriately, the group is called the Realistic Living Institute, holding Christian Resurgence Circles in their local social net as a formation tactic to promote its understanding and behavior.

There is no "bonfemme" in the French language as used in our title. I use it in lieu of "bonhomie" (from *bonhomme*, good fellow), which means "cheerful friendliness"; a geniality in the sense of "he exuded good humor and bonhomie." We often see it used like the word "mankind" and "manpower" for both genders, sticking with the masculine term. Its insidious subversive quality of patriarchal superiority is often not appreciated until we refer to a female head of a committee as the "chairman"!

The man's liberation movement of my familiarity appropriates intense sensuality in instinct, passionate engagement in intuition, comprehensive broadness in both lateral and longitudinal lines of intelligence, and inclusiveness of corporate intent and behavior in acts and deeds, qualities normally attributed to the influence of the female of the specie!

In the U.S., women finally voted in 1920. The great lengths women went through to break into restricted areas like journalistic covering of the Normandy landings to the running of the Boston Marathon is viewed as heroic. We shall keep quoting the old Chinese saying that "women hold half of the sky" (*Nu ren/fu nu neng ding ban bian tian*), revived by Mao Zedong during his Zhongguo watch, not because it accomplished the paradigm shift it was meant to accomplish, for it didn't, but the notion that the female of the specie is a partner to their chosen counterparts highlight the wisdom that a person is not complete without partnering with someone in a social net. (Partnering has since gone beyond the gender limits as

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



same-sex marriages are legalized.)

Institutions of covenant, as it is being reasserted in marriage in all its forms, means a relationship of mutual consent and trust where the French sense of *vive la difference* is not just assumed but honored and encouraged. This is most evident in the way we are asked to be sensitive in the use of our best social tool, language.

The Ecumenical Institute of Chicago and its related institutional offspring hold itself accountable to its own "faith" statements mirrored in the practices of its own institutions. It was a hard awakening as it became clear how deeply embedded the assumption of male dominance was in its language in spite of its enlightenment. The Realistic Living Institute, an offshoot of the spirit movement that EI came to represent, struggles with the same contradiction within its members even with the heightened consciousness of its own duplicity, unconsciously as it often comes, in the sad affair.

To their credit, the EI folks and their extended relations are at least conscious of the very contradiction it identifies as also a part of its own body operation and is working on alternatives. Clearing up the language is just the beginning; that's why I was delighted to read of a young high school student who started using "ze" to replace the pronouns "he and she," which I had temporarily slashed with "s/he." "Ze" is more creative and innovative! More important than retranslating historic sacred writs beyond their authors' cultures of patriarchy to the core of experience, is the appropriation of soft technologies and traits especially those articulated by the female of the specie.

MSNBC TV recently picked up research that indicated the casualty difference between hurricanes with feminine and masculine names showed a higher rate at almost three times in the former against the latter. Why anyone would make this research is anyone's guess; why MSNBC decided to air the result is, in my view, to cater to a high morning female TV audience! Still, we agree on awakening the female audience to the biases we hold.

My point: the female of the specie is still getting a bum steer. *Bonfemme* is a bombshell I recommend to the "fair thee well" crowd to use.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A rewarding career

After more than 40 years of writing, I look back at the long journey that started in 1968. It wasn't what famous poet David Frost alluded to as the road that "diverged in the wood, and I chose the one less traveled by and that has made all the difference." It is about making choices based on factors beyond superficiality and popularity.

My career hailed from upstairs that came via the spiritual echo of the wind in a single word, "Write!" I spent long and thoughtful moments pondering if I should head elsewhere or descend and guard the shark-infested harbor at home. It entails journalistic writing where great writing and story telling are found in revisions.

I started writing straight news stories, and commentaries later. My brother Frank did mostly the former. I stayed with it equally wary of its strength and constructive role in a community. Furthermore, I know my views won't change the global village with 900 words each trip to the Op-Ed page. It takes persistence, patience and years of writing with educated revisions to build credibility or voice.

But I have always been interested engaging in robust and rigorous debates drawing from the power of constructive ideas. Became a voracious reader of issues of substance. It's a must in this profession in order to stay ahead of events unfolding quickly.

Initially, I wrestled with the adopted culture of submission that clashed heavily with the individual rights of freedom of expression and rights of citizens. In other words, adopted culture mandates keeping your opinions to yourself. But there's strict discipline in journalistic writing that mandates conscious fairness. One is not at liberty to libel the innocent nor am I prepared to lead the pathway to ignorance. Change in attitude about printed news was evolutionary that slowly gained acceptance.

I don't recall compromising the integrity of the profession that focuses on the "search for the truth." It was no walk in the park either. I had some unpleasant run-ins with some of my best friends who ended lasting friendship because of what I've written. It comes with the territory! It seems anti-cultural and abrasive saying your piece. I call it "truth." No regrets either!

The profession has taken me far and wide, including both sides of the Pacific equator or across oceans right into Washington, D.C., New York, Japan, South Korea, and the entire Micronesian region.

I've worked with the region's gifted intellectuals and visionaries who emerged as leaders of their island countries. They know their specialties full square, donned the halo of humility, and endowed with spiritual wellbeing, sterling breadth and depth of intelligence, visionary leadership and wisdom. I've got my very short list of intellectual giants.

The only one from here that made by short list is former House speaker Oscar C. Rasa, a superbly bright intellectual giant and visionary. What privilege and pleasantries probing the depth of his vision. He's endowed with superb intelligence discernible in his ability

to simplify complicated issues and concepts down to layman's term. That's the hallmark of intelligence. I relish his counsel. He's equally committed to ascertaining an informed citizenry.

Our performance on SG?

There's fear of losing both skills and vision when I moved to the CNMI in 1977. But it turned a positive decision as I dealt with local leaders in charge of CNMI affairs. After retirement, the journey brings forth a vital query: How did we do after 36 years of constitutional government? The excursion assessing our progress wasn't very encouraging.

I've done music to feed my siblings years ago. It's the only aspect of my crowded mind that has kept my sanity. It's a way out of stressful situations. Did it for more than 25 years.

The persistent fiscal and financial crisis of the local government is a sufficient tale of botched progress. You're a living witness to economic dystopia (where nothing works), sufficiently capable of rendering your own judgment. The dearth of conscious leadership at the time we most need it is non-existent.

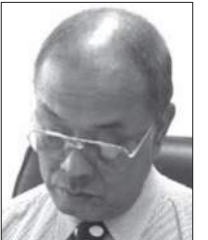
Indeed, I've outlasted the careers of one too many politicians who have faded into history. The working relationship had been congenial and respectful but kept my distance from activities outside my professional duties. Very few served with distinction by way of signature accomplishments. The majority became a part of the crowd headed out of the football stadium after the game. Sadly, I've seen how power corrupts and the quick reaction of voters stripping them of their power.

Though we've faltered persistently in strengthening self-government, we can't blame the protracted democratic process. We've been grappling with issues without real solutions. This has its genesis in the approval of the Covenant Agreement, hardly understood

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



by the majority who voted for it. Ask the same questions today and you'd hear a completely different reaction.

Does it matter how people perceive me in what's dubbed as egotistical arrogance for "telling it like it is?" Nah! I'd rather tell the truth, however uncomfortable it might be. I have skipped superlatives in adverbs and adjectives to avoid showers in political niceties the purview of ambassadors. If you tell me something's "good," I'd insist that you quantify it, e.g., exemplary, outstanding, or incomparable, etc. The truth is the guard of personal and professional freedom!

NMI 20 years from now

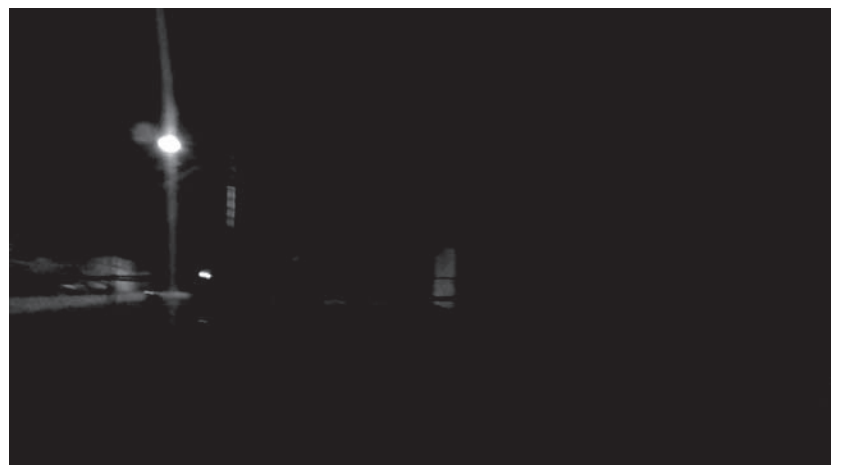
The CNMI has a limited window of opportunity to do what's right. If this doesn't happen over the next four years, this place turns into a torched desert land of persistent hardship and poverty. We would have ruined the political and economic freedom of our children. Not sure this is your vision of their future.

About the only two things that matter right here and now are the economy and the health of our people. The sluggish economy is hard on everybody. There's also a very sick local population whose future wellbeing merits critical review. Our bag of tricks is empty! Buckle down, now!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hey, you people on Capital Hill!

Ogumoro's floor amendment appropriated \$100,000 for the NMD Corp. for its "operations and functions." Whoa! That's public money. You need some priorities, folks. You have NMD guys in Susupe that need light bulbs in their basketball court lights. Some villages need hoops and lights. School is out in a day or so and you will have 11,000 kids that need things to do. Give most of that money to NMTI to teach young people how to fix Weed Whackers and outboard motors, show them what to expect if they get a job in a major hotel, teach them how to make a webpage so that CNMI departments won't have to pay thousands of dollars getting them made. It's baffling why everyone at government departments are so Internet illiterate. Any Hopwood or high school student can do it. There are 387,000 sites that show you how to do it, for free. You can also save a million or two a year by using Google+, Skype, GoToMeeting, or one of the other 160,000 free sites on the Web, and eliminate most of the travel expenses every year. Below is a photo I took last night of some young NMD people at the Susupe basketball court. Can't see much? Neither could they.



Gary Dubrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

Eagle ray, fruit bat, coconut crab

Dive master Hu Je Fang a Chinese national, was found guilty of killing a spotted eagle ray. I wonder what happened to Pretty Tour Co. and Pretty Kitchen where I heard the eagle ray was cooked and eaten. This is the same company owner that used the company boat and company employees to conduct this illegal activity. From what I understand, when you kill a protected species all that are involved will be penalized: the owner, the captain, the boat and equipment, and the dive master. I feel that although DLNR did a good job, they did not go far enough. DLNR should have confiscated the boat and prosecuted the owner. Auction all property involved and use the funds to continue the protection of all endangered species.

I was at Saipan Zoo last week with Mr. Boy Aldan, the zoo's owner, and we discussed the predicament of our Saipan Zoo and

how difficult it is to maintain. Funding is hard to come by. Maybe the penalty from the action of Pretty Tour and Pretty Kitchen should have been donated to the Saipan Zoo. I do not claim to have all the answers but maybe we can start there. Remember that at any given day there is a sea turtle, fruit bat, coconut crab, sea birds, or eagle ray being stolen, poached, or killed and, let's face it, these are delicacies in Asia.

I encourage the owner of Pretty Tour and Pretty Kitchen to visit the Saipan Zoo so he can better understand how important it is to preserve our indigenous wildlife and maybe donate some funds to the Saipan Zoo. I read in the news that he claims to be a millionaire.

Manuel J. Alvarez
Garapan, Saipan

WILLING

From Page 10

contribution of a little less than 25 cents per American each year.

In the next few years, this mission operating budget is projected to fall to less than 40 percent of this year's value. As a result, several fully operational spacecraft will be turned off—and lost in space.

Because our panel sought to maintain as much scientific breadth as possible, other projects have been reduced in funding almost to the point of simply collecting the data but not analyzing it. If the current budget guidelines are put into law, teams of scientists, engineers and software experts will be laid off. The collective talent of these groups will be permanently lost.






Is this extreme austerity, an artifact of the current political climate, really the right way forward? The United States is in a better position than ever to advance human understanding of the universe in ways unimaginable to Ben Franklin as he established American science many years ago. Are we, as a nation, to be remembered by future generations for building these remarkable eyes on the universe, simply to let them drift away into darkness or vaporize in the atmosphere, when they can still see things no one has ever imagined? Are we not obliged to continue this bold exploration, with vigor, for the benefit of all of humanity?

B.R. Oppenheimer is curator in charge, professor and chairman of the astrophysics department at the American Museum of Natural History. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86 ▼81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼80
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼81
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼81
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼80

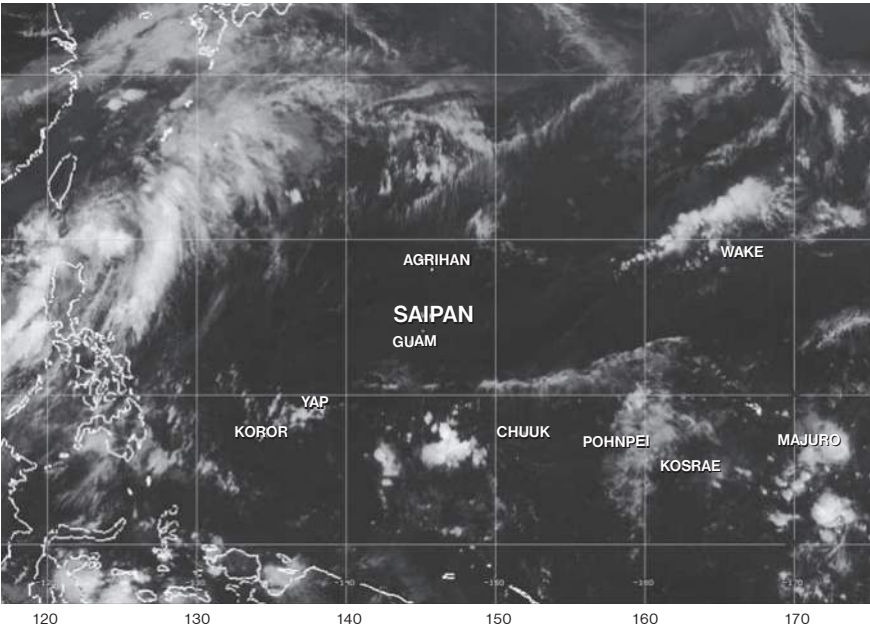
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲56 ▼53
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲95 ▼69
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼77
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84 ▼75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲73 ▼53
Los Angeles	Paretyl Cloudy	▲73 ▼59
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲85 ▼79
Melbourne	Showers	▲57 ▼47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼76
New York	Cloudy	▲72 ▼64
Osaka	Rain	▲76 ▼64
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲77 ▼56
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼62
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲92 ▼69
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲80 ▼50
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲62 ▼52
Seoul	Rain	▲77 ▼61
Tokyo	Rain	▲75 ▼67
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼69

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
12:38 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet	
6:11 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
1:28 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	
8:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak cold front extends southwestward from 25N168E to 18N158E. Low-level convergence south and east of the front is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Wake Island in the area bounded by 18N159E to 25N169E to 25N180 to 23N180 to 20N171E back to 18N159E. Low-level convergence is producing cloudiness and scattered showers east of Okinawa in the area bounded by 19N130E to 25N130E to 25N135E back to 19N130E. Weak trade-wind disturbances are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Yap and Koror between 7N and 10N from 134E to 139E well west of Chuuk between 5N and 8N from 142E to 149E just east of Pohnpei within 100 miles of a line from 10N161E to 2N159E and from Majuro south to Butaritari between the equator and 8N from 169E to 174E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:51 PM	3:45 AM
Thursday	5:51 PM	4:38 AM
Friday	6:52 PM	5:35 AM
Saturday	7:51 PM	6:36 AM
Sunday	7:51 PM	6:36 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:20pm	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	10:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Hundreds attend funeral of late mayor Donald Flores

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The late Saipan mayor Donald Glenn Pangelinan Flores was accorded state honors during a funeral held yesterday morning at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Nearly a thousand people attended Flores' funeral that included family and community members, government officials, and friends.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos ordered the rendering of state honors for Flores because he was serving his term of office at the time of his death. That meant draping the CNMI flag on Flores' coffin

by seven of the Department of Public Safety funeral detail.

It was not, however, a state funeral but a traditional Christian burial, as requested by the late mayor's family.

After the Mass, everyone started heading for the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery for the burial.

Flores' special adviser, Henry Hofschneider, said he was thankful to the community and friends for coming out and supporting the family of Flores.

"The mayor touched people's lives in so many different ways and he is most thankful to his employees," Hofschneider said.

Flores was making a re-election bid this November when he succumbed to a massive stroke on June 2, 2014.

James Cabrera, chairman of the Committee-to-Elect Flores, described the late mayor as a great leader and in fact drew a lot of support during his fundraising. "Unfortunately, we are in the process of reorganizing the committee and announcing a candidate in

Flores' place," he said.

The late mayor's wife, Cecilia, told *Saipan Tribune* that their family is very thankful to all the support they've received.

"Words are not enough to express my gratitude to the support their love and their prayers in this time when I am grieving and the family is too for his passing. I hope they will continue to remember him in their prayers and to continue his vi-

sion to keep our island clean," she said.

The late mayor's brother, Jerry Kintol, also gave thanks to the community for attending the funeral.

"I also want to thank Marian Tudela for keeping the staff because without them the success of Donald would've been harder and we want to thank the public for all their help and support," Kintol said.

Marian Tudela has been appointed to finish Flores' term as mayor of Saipan. She had promised to retain all of Flores' staff.

Kintol's brother-in-law, Santiago Tudela, told *Saipan Tribune* that he also wants to thank the community and appreciates their support and for attending the funeral.

Kintol also noted that Flores "flowered" the island and that was one of the plans to beautify the island and help the community.

US govt wants to charge Quitugua for illegal guns

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. government wants to file charges against federal probationer Daniel M. Quitugua over the alleged illegal guns that were found in his possession during a traffic stop.

Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe informed U.S. District Court for the NMI Senior Judge Alex R. Munson that the U.S. government would be seeking an indictment for the gun charges.

Backe also asked the court for Quitugua's continued detention pending a resolution in the revocation petition.

Quitugua, through court-appointed counsel F. Matthew Smith, denied the allegations in the petition. Smith disclosed that he had just received Quitugua's alleged admission statement and that he did not have the opportunity to review this yet.

Backe explained that the admission statement was only for Quitugua's use of methamphetamine and not for the weapons violation.

Smith then asked the court to be allowed to withdraw as counsel for Quitugua due to personal issues. Munson allowed this and ordered the court's clerk to appoint a new counsel for Quitugua.

Munson set the revocation hearing for July 2, 2014 at 9am.

U.S. Marshal Don Hall stated that their office would be filing a detainer on Quitugua with the Department of Corrections, which means he would be automatically detained under federal custody if he is released from local custody.

Munson remanded Quitugua into the custody of the U.S. Marshal to be returned to the Department of Corrections.

Last week, Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed the charge of illegal possession of a controlled substance filed against Quitugua after police officers failed to test the alleged "ice" found in his possession.

Camacho said he heard the testimony of witnesses and found no probable cause to charge Quitugua with illegal possession of a controlled substance.

Camacho said the Department of Public Safety reportedly lacks funds to buy field test kits, resulting in detectives being unable to perform a field test on the alleged controlled substance.

DPS narcotics investigator Elias Saralu testified that three baggies of possible "ice" and a glass tube were found with Quitugua when he was arrested.

Camacho also found no probable cause to charge Quitugua with assault and battery and dismissed that count.

The judge, however, found probable cause to charge him with resisting arrest and ordered him to answer that count.

The Office of the Attorney General did not charge Quitugua with illegal possession of firearms and ammunitions.

Police arrested Quitugua for allegedly speeding and running away from police officers, leaving behind a bag that contained three illegal guns and bullets near Northern Marianas College on May 23, 2014.

Following his arrest, the U.S. Probation Office sought to have Quitugua's probation revoked.

U.S. probation officer Gregory F. Arriola said that Quitugua is prohibited from any unlawful use of a controlled substance and from committing another federal, state, or local crime as a condition of his probation.

Arriola said Quitugua admitted in writing that he used "ice" on May 14, 2014, and on March 5, April 28, May 20, and June 7, all in 2013.

In April 2005, the federal court slapped Quitugua with a 120-month prison term followed by a five-year supervised release, for robbing a poker arcade in 2004. He was convicted of Hobbs Act robbery and using and carrying a firearm during crime of violence.

Quitugua's supervised release began on Jan. 14, 2013.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Cecilia Flores, center, widow of the late Saipan mayor Donald Glen P. Flores, is flanked by her grandchildren as the late mayor's coffin is being escorted out of the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa to the cemetery after a state funeral yesterday.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF BATTLES OF SAIPAN AND TINIAN

Petty and Castro to present this week

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

Visiting author and Vietnam War veteran Bruce M. Petty and Marie Castro will be making their presentations and book signing this week.

Petty will be presenting this Thursday, June 12, from 6pm to 8pm and Castro will be presenting on Friday, June 13, from 5pm to 6pm. Both presentations will be held at the American Memorial Park's Visitors Center.

Petty will talk about the current status of his search to find World War II soldiers who are missing in action.

For the past several years, Petty has been networking with families of the missing and con-

necting with individuals and groups who are involved in the search to find them.

Castro will present her book *Without a Penny in My Pocket* where she recounts her life before, during, and after World War II, with her story beginning in the 1930s.

Castro is formerly known as Sister Soledad, having dedicated herself to the church and becoming a nun in the Mercaderian Order and a teacher. After more than a decade of teaching on Saipan, she moved to Kansas City and has lived there ever since.

Petty, along with his wife and children, lived on Saipan from 1995 to 2000.

While on Saipan, he re-

searched and wrote his first book, *Saipan: Histories of the Pacific War*. Since then he has written three other books on World War II in the Pacific, the latest being *New Zealand in The Pacific War*.

For the past four years, Petty has been a Pacific War lecturer for Princess Cruises and lives in New Plymouth, New Zealand.

The presentation is sponsored by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council through funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and is part of the council's ongoing Community Lecture Series.

It is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the Humanities Council staff at 670-235-4785.

Inos' SOCA reset for June 30

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is expected to deliver his first State of the Commonwealth Address before a joint session of the House of Representatives and Senate on a rescheduled date of June 30, over four months before the general elections.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday he also accepted the Legislature's invitation to address them on June 30.

When Inos delivers his SOCA, it will be his first since assuming office on Feb. 20, 2013. The initial SOCA date was early May but this was pushed back.

Inos is expected to outline his administration's accomplishments, challenges, objectives, and plans, amid a recovering tourism-based economy. Inos is facing three other gubernatorial hopefuls in November.

Moreover, by the time Inos delivers his SOCA, retirees may have already received or about to receive their deferred 25 percent pension, if the Lottery Commission grants an exclusive Saipan casino license to either of two applicants by the June 19 deadline.

Once a license to exclusively develop a minimum \$2-billion integrated casino resort on Saipan is granted, \$30 million in deposited casino license fee will be released to pay for retirees' deferred pension and to pay for the interest on retirement contributions that government employees withdrew last year.

The governor's SOCA, expected to be held in the House chamber on Capital Hill, is referred to in Article III, Section 9 (b) of the NMI Constitution.

The last time a CNMI governor delivered a SOCA was on Jan. 8, 2013. At the time, some House members walked out of the joint legislative session when then governor Benigno R. Fitial delivered his SOCA. Over a month later, Fitial stepped down after being impeached by the House and before the Senate could hold an impeachment trial.

Speech teams ready for national competition next week

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Sixteen student competitors of the high school National Speech and Debate Association put on a special showcase presentation Monday evening at the San Antonio Social Hall. The state champions performed their pieces from the category they championed in the March regional competition.

This year's national team include the tandem of Marianas High School's Yuuki Nishida and Jayrald Mercene, who will represent the islands in duo interpretation. Marianas Baptist Academy's Kanata Omori will compete in the U.S extemporaneous speech category. Mount Carmel School's Thomas Manglona II will compete in the Lincoln-Douglas Debate; MHS' Masrur Alam, in the foreign extemporaneous speech; Saipan Southern High School's Katrina Punzlan, original oratory; SSSHS' Trianna Del Rosario, Chamorro dramatic interpretation; MBA's Alina Ishikawa, dramatic interpretation, MCS' Soon Hyung Kwon, humorous interpretation; SSSHS' Devina Atalig, Chamorro poetry; Grace Christian Academy's Minna Ito, expository speech; MHS' Ann Norcio, commentary; Saipan International School's Minori Yoshida, prose; GCA's Yujin Lee, poetry; GCA's Dong Ha Lee, storytelling; and MHS' Scarlet Chen, impromptu.

According to NSDA practice and showcase coordinator Dencio V. Manglona, Monday's event followed countless hours of volunteer work from teacher coaches and tremendous effort from students and their parents. "We put a lot of work and effort into this showcase and practiced the past two months. I feel this team is strong," Manglona, a former high school NSDA competitor, said. "I feel this is a strong team...the team will support each other when they need to and stay strong."

The students are expected to leave island on Saturday and make their way to Overland Park, Kansas, where they will represent the CNMI in their categories and compete with over 5,000 other students from around the globe from June 15 to 20.

One competitor, Kanata Omori, said he is more than prepared for the competition. "I am prepared for this trip. This should be fun. I am looking forward to meeting new people and competing against the best of the best."

Fellow competitor and 2013 junior forensic league 3rd place national dramatic interpretation champion Yu Jin Lee expressed similar sentiment.

"Each year is a new group of students and new competition. I remind myself that there is always room for improvement as I continue to practice for the national competition," she said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the National Junior Forensic League pose for a photo after their showcase last Saturday at the Hopwood Jr. High School cafeteria.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

National Speech & Debate Association High School competitors pose for a photo during Monday's showcase held at the San Antonio Social Hall.

CONGRATULATIONS!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to Jeromaln Becky W. Santos on your 2014 graduation from Kagman High School. Good luck on your future journey and may the Lord guide you. We love you, from *nino* and *nina* StanZen and godsisters and godbrothers.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to Joyce Anne R. Nisola for successfully completing her eighth grade at Hopwood Junior High School where she achieved the Top 9 honor of her class. Greetings come from your family and friends!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulation to our graduate, Stephany Mae Tagabuel Moded, who will be graduating from Kagman High School. We are so proud of you, girl! Much love from your bosses, Coketown and A-Town, and the whole Tagabuel clan.



Congratulations to Tiffany Cayading who was promoted to high school during Hopwood Junior High's promotion ceremony yesterday at the school campus. Greetings from mom and dad!

"The showcase was an unforgettable experience," Masrur Alam told *Saipan Tribune*. "This is my first time competing and I am looking forward to competing against other students from around the world. I hope we all do our very best."

One parent, Victoria Nishida, said, "It was awesome to see great improvement with the performances. ...Every year they improve and I am really proud of them. Every time

they go to the national level they make it a point to learn new things."

The students practiced to perfect their pieces over the past weeks under the guidance of coaches Harold Easton and Dencio Manglona from Marianas High School, Frank Borja and Andrew Golden from Saipan Southern High School, Keith Tessen and Celia Jang from Saipan International School, and Filmah Buenaflor and To-

bed Smith from Mount Carmel School. Marianas Baptist Academy's Gospel Trinidad and Eleonor Alejo, and Grace Christian Academy's Ami Joy Danganan and Daniel Dilse also served as coaches for this year's national team.

The National Junior Forensic League also held its showcase last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School cafeteria in anticipation of the national competition. The members of the

NJFL team representing the CNMI are Northern Marianas International School's Candice Aldan, for original oratory; GCA's Dianne Arnold and Pegg Pixley, for duo interpretation; and MBA's Minju Kang, for prose reading interpretation. Esther Kim from GCA will be representing the island in poetry; MBA's Won Kwon Kim, for Lincoln-Douglas Debate; Hyun In Noh, extemporaneous speech; Saipan Community School's Esther Park, storytelling; MCS' Reica Ramirez, impromptu; Grace Christian's Melody Woo, humorous interpretation; and Hopwood's Kelvin Wolf, for Dramatic Interpretation.

Two winners representing poetry and dramatic interpretation in the Chamorro language were also presented at Saturday's showcase. Hopwood's Chloe Salvosa and San Vicente Elementary School's Nina Vladisimo performed their categories, respectively.

Western Pacific Regional NSDA board member Harold Easton said he is confident in this year's national team. "I anticipate that they will do their usual best. They traditionally do quite well and I do not see any reason why they will not do the same for this year. This will be one of the best experiences in their life," he added.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GREAT JOB!

Congratulations KJ on your Mount Carmel School junior high graduation and kudos to your dad, Sgt. Kelvin Cepeda, second from right, for his visit home for your graduation and also for his honorable service to our nation in Afghanistan these past nine months! We are proud of you both!

Nation

Audit: More than 57,000 await first VA appointment

WASHINGTON (AP)—More than 57,000 U.S. military veterans have been waiting 90 days or more for their first VA medical appointments, and an additional 64,000 appear to have fallen through the cracks, never getting appointments after enrolling, the government said Monday in a report newly demonstrating how deep and widespread the problem is.

It's not just a backlog issue, the wide-ranging Veterans Affairs review indicated. Thirteen percent of schedulers in the facility-by-facility report on 731 hospitals and outpatient clinics reported being told by supervisors to falsify appointment schedules to make patient waits appear shorter.

The audit is the first nationwide look at the VA network



About the VA

Forty veterans reportedly died while awaiting treatment from the Phoenix VA Health Care System, and VA officials may have intentionally destroyed a related waiting list. Profile of the agency amid the crisis:

Background, mission and leadership

- **Founded as the Veterans Administration** in 1930 when the Veterans Bureau, Bureau of Pensions of the Interior Department and National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers were consolidated
- **Raised to Cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs** in 1989

- **Mission** To administer veterans' benefits, including health services, scholarships, home loans, insurance, pensions and burial services
- **Acting cabinet secretary** Sloan Gibson

VA medical facilities As of 2013

152

Hospitals

800

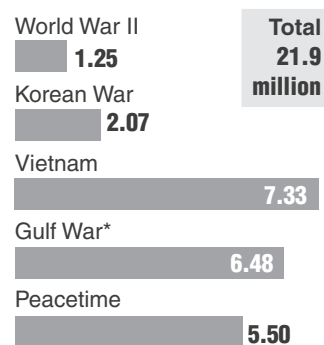
Community-based outpatient clinics

126

Nursing home facilities

Veteran population

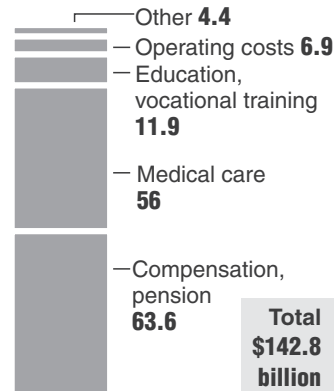
2013, by war era, in millions



*Includes Afghan and Iraq veterans
NOTE: Some served in more than one era

VA budget

2013, by category, in billions



Source: Department of Veterans Affairs

Graphic: Chicago Tribune

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Vietnam veteran Ron Silver Eagle D'Andre, left, listens during a town hall meeting at American Legion Post 1 on Monday, June 9, 2014, in Phoenix concerning health-care issues at the Phoenix VA facilities.

in the uproar that began with reports two months ago of patients dying while awaiting appointments and of cover-ups at the Phoenix VA center. A preliminary review last month found that long patient waits and falsified records were "systemic" throughout the VA medical network, the nation's largest single health care provider serving nearly 9 million veterans.

"This behavior runs counter to our core values," the report said. "The overarching environment and culture which allowed this state of practice to take root must be confronted head-on."

Richard Griffin, the VA's acting inspector general, said his office was investigating 69 VA medical facilities nationwide for possible wrongdoing, up from 42 two weeks ago. The investigations could result in criminal charges, which Griffin said may be needed to combat senior VA

leaders who have allowed and even encouraged fraudulent scheduling practices often referred to as "gaming" the system.

"Once someone loses his job or gets criminally charged for doing this, it will no longer be a game. And that will be the shot heard around the system," Griffin said Monday night at a hearing of the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

Acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson said earlier Monday that VA officials have contacted

50,000 veterans across the country to get them off waiting lists and into clinics and are in the process of contacting 40,000 more.

The controversy forced VA Secretary Eric Shinseki to resign May 30. Shinseki took the blame for what he decried as a "lack of integrity" through the network. Legislation is being written in both the House and Senate to allow more veterans who can't get timely VA appointments to see doctors listed as providers under Medicare or

Court: Children over 21 go to back of visa line

WASHINGTON (AP)—A divided Supreme Court ruled Monday that most immigrant children who have become adults during their parents' years-long wait to become legal permanent residents of the United States should go to the back of the line in their own wait for visas.

In a 5-4 decision, the justices sided with the Obama administration in finding that immigration laws offer relief only to a tiny percentage of children who "age out" of the system when they turn 21. The majority—tens of thousands of children—no longer qualify for the immigration status granted to minors.

The case is unusual in that it pitted the administration against immigration reform advocates who said government officials were misreading a law intended to keep families together by preventing added delays for children seeking visas.

The ruling also features President Barack Obama's two court appointees—Justices Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor—on opposing sides of a complicated debate over what the law means and what Congress intended when it

wrote the laws governing wait times for children seeking visas.

The case does not have any impact on the recent influx of thousands of immigrant children traveling on their own to cross the U.S. border from Mexico.

Five justices agreed with the outcome of the case but there was no majority opinion. Writing for three justices, Kagan said the law preserves the place in line for a child whose petition for a visa was filed directly by a parent who is a green card holder, but not for children in other categories. She was joined by Justices Anthony Kennedy and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Antonin Scalia wrote a separate opinion agreeing only with the outcome, but not Kagan's reasoning.

Because approving families for green cards can take years, tens of thousands of immigrant children age out of the system each year, according to government estimates. Congress tried to fix the problem in 2002 when it passed the Child Status Protection Act. The law allows aged-out children to retain their child status longer or qualify for a valid adult category and keep their place in line.

the military's TRICARE program. The proposals also would make it easier to fire senior VA regional officials and hospital administrators.

House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, said the report demonstrated that Congress must act immediately.

"The fact that more than 57,000 veterans are still waiting for their first doctor appointment from the VA is a national disgrace," Boehner said.

The new audit said a 14-day agency target for waiting times was "not attainable," given poor planning and a growing demand for VA services as Vietnam-era vets age and younger veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars enter the system.

Journalists killed in 2013 remembered at Newseum

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Newseum on Monday honored the 77 journalists who were killed around the world in 2013 by adding 10 names to its towering memorial.

At a rededication ceremony for the memorial, Associated Press Executive Editor and Senior Vice President Kathleen Carroll called on journalists to fight indifference and reaffirm the importance of standing up to corruption and fear. If journalists fail to do so, she said, "then you are giving up things that these people died to fight for, and that's unconscionable."

"Across the world, journalists are not submitting. They fight for the right to freely chronicle the actions of the powerful and the humble," Carroll said.

Last year, 28 journalists were killed in Syria, making it the deadliest place in the world for journalists.

The memorial now contains the names of 2,256 journalists who have died while covering the news since 1837, said Gene Policinski, Newseum chief operating officer. He said advances in digital media have put more journalists at risk, since they now have larger audiences and can attract more attention.

Journalists continue their work despite that risk, Carroll said. She noted that Associated Press photographer Anja Niedringhaus had said she kept going back to dangerous parts of the world "because it's what I do." Niedringhaus was killed in April 2014 by an Afghan police officer within weeks of making that statement, Carroll said. In the same attack, veteran AP correspondent Kathy Gannon was wounded.

Police: Vegas cop killers had anti-government view

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A husband and wife who went on a deadly shooting rampage in Las Vegas harbored anti-government beliefs and left a swastika and a "Don't tread on me" flag on the body of one of the two police officers they killed, authorities said Monday.

Jerad and Amanda Miller had been kicked off a Nevada ranch where anti-government protesters faced down federal agents earlier this year because they were "very radical," according to the son of rancher Cliven Bundy.

Assistant Sheriff Kevin McMahon said the Millers had ideology shared by "militia and white supremacists," including the belief that law enforcement was the "oppressor."

Police believe the shootings were an isolated act, not part

of a broader conspiracy to target law enforcement, McMahon said.

Ammon Bundy, one of Cliven Bundy's sons, said by telephone that the Millers were at his father's ranch for a few days this spring before they were asked to leave by militia members for unspecified "conduct" problems. He called the couple "very radical" and said they "did not align themselves" with the beliefs of other protesters, who thwarted a roundup of Cliven Bundy's cattle by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, which wants to collect more than \$1 million in grazing fees and penalties.

While thousands of people have been to the site over the last couple of months, "Not very many people were asked to leave. I think they may have

been the only ones," Ammon Bundy said.

On Sunday, the two Las Vegas police officers were having lunch at a pizza buffet in an aging strip mall about 5 miles northeast of the Las Vegas Strip when the Millers fatally shot them. The attack at a CiCi's Pizza killed officers Alyn Beck, 41, and Igor Soldo, 31, both of whom were husbands and fathers.

According to McMahon, this is how Sunday's events unfolded:

The Millers left a neighbor's apartment where they had been staying around 4:30 a.m. and walked for hours, eventually reaching the strip mall, about 5 miles away.

Around 11:20 a.m., Jerad Miller went briefly into the restaurant, then left and got his wife, leaving their backpacks outside.

Asia

Crew of sunken S. Korean ferry appear at hearing

GWANGJU, South Korea (AP)—Fifteen crew members from the sunken South Korean ferry appeared in court Tuesday to enter pleas on charges that they were negligent and failed to save the more than 300 people who died or are missing from the disaster.

Lawyers also planned to submit evidence during the hearing at Gwangju District Court. Most of those killed in the April 16 sinking of the ferry Sewol were high school students, and many people from the students' hometown attended the hearing.

There was a brief bit of chaos as families of the victims arrived. A man who appeared to be a parent rushed through a hallway in front of the courtroom, a camera crew behind him, yelling that he needed to enter immediately. Other family members stood calmly in line for a security check. Many wore yellow ribbons in memory of those killed in the disaster.

China ships depart for naval drill with US, others

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese naval squadron has left port to take part for the first time in the world's largest naval exercises hosted by the U.S. in waters near Hawaii, the Defense Ministry said Tuesday.

China's participation in the Rim of the Pacific exercises is seen as an opportunity to build mutual trust amid tensions at sea with neighbors ranging from Vietnam and the Philippines to the south, to Japan in the east.

Washington and Beijing have been seeking closer military ties following an incident last December when a U.S. Navy cruiser, the USS Cowpens, nearly collided with a ship accompanying China's sole aircraft carrier in the South China Sea—the most serious sea confrontation between the two nations in years.

Twenty-three countries will participate in this year's drills, including Canada, India, Japan and South Korea. The exercises begin June 26 and last through Aug. 1.

A Defense Ministry statement said that the destroyer

All surviving crew members responsible for the ship's navigation have been charged with negligence and with failing to do their duty to protect passengers.

The captain and three other crew members are charged with homicide—a charge that could carry the death penalty, though South Korea has not executed anyone since 1997. Prosecutors accuse them of tacitly colluding to abandon the ship while being aware that the passengers would be trapped and killed when the ship sank.

President Park Geun-hye has called the crew's actions murderous, and the pervading hostility against them has raised questions about the fairness of the trial. The crew is being defended by six state-appointed lawyers, three of whom started practicing law only this year.

The court said in a statement that it will guarantee the rights of both the defendants and the

victims and faithfully investigate evidence for a speedy and fair trial.

Nearly two months after the sinking, 292 bodies have been recovered and 12 people are still missing. Divers continue underwater searches for those believed trapped inside the sunken ship off the country's southwestern coast.

There are allegations that the ferry operator, Chonghaejin Marine Co., dangerously overloaded the vessel and gave crew members inadequate emergency training, and some company officials also have been arrested.

There also is widespread anger and frustration with the government over what many see as an incompetent search and rescue effort. Since the sinking, President Park Geun-hye has pushed to restructure government agencies and reshuffle top officials to try to restore public confidence.

Haikou, missile frigate Yueyang, the oiler Yueyang, and hospital ship Peace Ark departed Monday. It said the squadron is carrying 1,100 officers and sailors, including a commando unit and diving team, along with two helicopters.

The statement quoted navy Deputy Chief of Staff Hong Xu-meng as saying China's participation in the drills constituted "an important mission of military diplomacy" and a further step in strengthening China-U.S. relations.

"It's also a new development in exploring ways of strengthening friendly relations with countries of the South Pacific through public diplomacy," Hong was quoted as saying.

China has never before dispatched ships to take part in the exercises, although it sent military observers to watch the drills in 1998.

Chinese and U.S. naval vessels have rarely exercised together. Last year, China sent a guided missile cruiser, a frigate and a supply ship to Hawaii for

a search-and-rescue exercise with the U.S.

This year, the Peace Ark will participate in medical exchanges, while the other ships are expected to join a maritime interdiction operations task force.

The exercises are held every other year and are the world's largest maritime exercises.

Frictions along China's maritime periphery have heightened the need for better communication and closer coordination with other countries' navies. Chinese patrol boats are currently involved in standoffs over clashing territorial claims with its neighbors in the South China Sea, along with Japan over disputed uninhabited islands north of Taiwan.

Earlier this month, the U.S., China and two dozen Asia-Pacific nations adopted an agreement to improve communication at sea to reduce the possibility of misunderstandings that could lead to conflict in the heavily trafficked sea lanes surrounding China, Japan and Southeast Asia.

in charge of the search because the Boeing 777 is registered in that country. But Australia is coordinating the search because it is the closest country to where the plane is thought to have crashed. Most of the passengers were Chinese and their government is playing an active role in the search.

Vietnam tycoon sentenced to 30 years for fraud

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—A Vietnamese court sentenced one of the country's richest men to

30 years in prison on Monday after finding him guilty of financial crimes involving millions of dollars. Nguyen Duc Kien, a flamboyant businessman who also headed the Hanoi ACB football club, was arrested in 2012. The move was seen as part of the fallout of a power struggle among factions in the ruling Communist Party and allied business tycoons. State media reported that Kien was found guilty of fraud, tax evasion, illegal trade and "deliberate wrongdoing" in scams at investment companies run by him.

World

Bombs against Kurds, other attacks in Iraq kill 40

BAGHDAD (AP)—A double bombing tore through Kurdish political party offices in northern Iraq in the deadliest of a series of attacks nationwide that killed at least 40 people, officials said. It was the second such assault in as many days.

Nobody claimed responsibility for Monday's attack. But an al-Qaida splinter group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant claimed responsibility for the previous double bombing Sunday against Kurdish offices in Jalula, northwest of Baghdad, killing 19 people. The group said in an online statement that the bombings in Jalula were in response to the detention of Muslim women by authorities in the self-rule Kurdish region in northern Iraq.

Iraq is grappling with its worst surge in violence since the sectarian bloodletting of 2006 and 2007, when the country was pushed to the brink of civil war despite the

presence of tens of thousands of U.S. troops. The Americans withdrew at the end of 2011.

Monday's attack took place in the town of Tuz Khormato, about 200 kilometers (130 miles) north of Baghdad, when a suicide bomber drove his explosives-laden truck into a checkpoint leading up to the offices of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan and the nearby Kurdistan Communist Party.

Mayor Shalal Abdoul said another truck bomb exploded, presumably detonated by remote control, as people rushed to the scene of the first attack. The blasts killed 22 people, wounded as many as 150 and destroyed several houses and cars, he said.

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan of Iraqi President Jalal Talabani is one of the main parties governing the Kurdish region in northern Iraq and maintains offices in other areas that are heavily dominated by the ethnic minority.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant is composed of Sunni insurgents who stage frequent high-profile bombings aimed at derailing the Shiite-dominated government and its Kurdish allies.

Attacks have spiked as Islamic State and other insurgents have strengthened their control over parts of Iraq's western Anbar province and exploited widespread Sunni anger over alleged mistreatment by the government.

Also Monday, gunmen opened fire on a security checkpoint in the town of Kanaan, about 75 kilometers (50 miles) northeast of Baghdad, killing four soldiers and two police officers, police said.

And in the Iraqi capital, gunmen killed a real estate agent after spraying his office with bullets in a western neighborhood, police said. A bomb blast also killed a government employee in eastern Baghdad, police said.

Tax cheats took billions from Ukraine

KIEV, Ukraine (AP)—On paper, the Ukrainian trading firm known as Mistral dealt in management consulting and research, doing millions of dollars' worth of deals before going bust after Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich was chased out of office earlier this year.

But when police recently tried to visit Mistral's Kiev office at No. 12 Saperne Pole Street, they found a huge hole in the ground, the foundation of an apartment complex to be completed next year. There was no trace of Mistral, whose name refers to a type of wind.

A receptionist at No. 5 on that street said there used to be a wine warehouse at the site, but it was cleared when construction began in 2011. Apartment numbers now jump from 9 to 22.

Sexual assault on student sparks outrage in Egypt

CAIRO (AP)—A string of sexual assaults on women during celebrations of Egypt's presidential inauguration—including a mass attack on a 19-year-old student who was stripped in Cairo's Tahrir Square—prompted outrage Monday as a video emerged purportedly showing the teenager, bloodied and naked, surrounded by dozens of men.

Seven men were arrested in connection with the assault and police were investigating 27 other complaints of sexual harassment against women during Sunday's rallies by tens of thousands of people celebrating Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi's inauguration late into the night, security officials said.

Officials tasked with cleaning the country's corruption-scarred tax system say the company didn't merely enter the wrong address. They say Mistral may never have existed in the first place—one of scores or even hundreds of phantom firms suspected of squeezing a total of 130 billion hryvnias (\$11 billion) from Kiev's coffers over the past three years. The country's total tax revenue amounted to 210 billion hryvnias (\$17.8 billion) in 2013. Some 30 investigations are now underway, and a handful of companies have been raided, but the country's top tax official contends his predecessors were part of the fraud, which is why many phantom firms acted with impunity.

"They didn't care about the police, the security services.

Nobody was checking," Deputy Tax Minister Ihor Bilous told The Associated Press in an interview at his Kiev office last month. "That's why this cancer ... spread over the whole country."

Outside experts support Bilous' claims, and documents reviewed by the AP—including tax records, a list of alleged phantom companies drawn up by a Ukrainian anti-corruption group, and data from the business intelligence website Arachnys—echo his description of a wide-ranging scheme.

Bilous' assertions are "very hard not to agree with," said Anna Derevyanko, the director of the Kiev-based European Business Association. "Basically whatever field you are touching, it was corrupt in the territory of Ukraine."

statement signed by the women's groups.

Last week, authorities issued a decree declaring sexual harassment a crime punishable by up to five years in prison. The decree amended Egypt's current laws on abuse, which did not criminalize sexual harassment and only vaguely referred to such offenses as "indecent assault."

Sexual harassment has been one of Egypt's enduring social ills, embedded in the country's patriarchal conservative culture, where women are seen as inferior to men. Movies often portray women as sex objects, leaving them vulnerable to men who feel empowered by the absence of a strong legal deterrent.



ASIAN BRIEFS

Searchers undecided who will pay for airliner hunt

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—Countries searching for the missing Malaysian plane have yet to agree on how to share costs, an Australian search leader said Tuesday. Malaysian officials were in the Australian capital Canberra to discuss the next phase of the seabed search for Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 that is thought to have crashed in the southern Indian Ocean on March 8 with 239 passengers and crew on board. Malaysia is

Focus

Where have all the missing American workers gone?

By TOM RAUM
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The unemployment rate has been on a slow downward trajectory since the recession ended nearly five years ago. While the overall jobless level has dropped to non-recession levels, the number of the working-age people with jobs is barely over 6 in 10, hovering at a level reminiscent of the late 1970s.

In May, the U.S. workforce-participation rate—the combination of those with jobs and unemployed workers actively seeking them—was just 62.8 percent, the same as the month before. Job markets have been essentially flat since October.

Where have all the missing workers gone?

A key factor, nearly all agree, is the

struction, have yet to fully rebound.

But perhaps the most significant factor is unemployed workers “who just drop out of the job market after one, two or three years of looking for work and not being successful,” said Carl Van Horn, a professor of public policy at Rutgers University who studies workplace dynamics and employment trends.

Recent surveys suggest more and



This April 4, 2014, file photo shows Erica L. Groshen, commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the Department of Labor, breaks down the latest employment statistics for the Joint Economic Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.7 percent. It has been on a slow downward trajectory since the recession ended nearly five years ago. But while the overall jobless level has dropped to non-recessionary levels, the number of the working-age people with actual jobs is barely over 6 in 10, hovering at a level reminiscent of the late 1970s.

\$15 minimum wage permits few luxuries in US cities

By DONNA GORDON BLANKINSHIP
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE (AP)—A \$15 minimum wage like the one adopted in Seattle doesn't buy many luxuries in most American cities.

Lattes, theater tickets and cable television will still be out of reach for most minimum-wage workers. But about \$31,000 a year should be enough to pay the average rent for a shared one-bedroom apartment, plus utilities, health insurance, groceries and an inexpensive cellphone plan.

Monday's vote by the Seattle City Council created the nation's highest minimum wage. The state minimum wage in Washington was already \$9.32 an hour, the highest state wage in the U.S.

Expattistan, a website that tracks the cost of living in cities around the world, says New York, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Honolulu, Boston and Seattle are the most expensive U.S. cities overall, in that order.

An Associated Press comparison of the cost of living in several other major U.S. cities shows a higher wage would make a difference in those places too, but it won't allow for many extras.

SEATTLE

(Minimum wage is currently \$9.32)

RENT: A typical one-bedroom apartment goes for \$1,400 a month.

GAS: A gallon of gas is \$3.94.

TRANSPORTATION: A ride on the bus is \$2.50.

MILK/COFFEE/OTHER: A gal-

lon of milk averages about \$3.60. A 16-ounce latte at Starbucks is \$3.35, a pint of local beer \$4.50.

Seattle's wage is set to begin climbing in April 2015, with many workers reaching \$11 an hour next year. That will surpass San Francisco's minimum wage, which at \$10.55 an hour is currently the highest of any American city.

NEW YORK CITY

(Minimum wage is \$8):

RENT: The median Manhattan rent is \$3,420, according to a recent report.

GAS: A gallon of gas is \$3.93.

TRANSPORTATION: A ride on the subway is \$2.50. The average taxi fare is a bit over \$15.

MILK/COFFEE/OTHER: A large coffee at Starbucks is about \$2.45. A gallon of milk is just over \$4. A foot-long sandwich at Subway is \$6.90.

New York's minimum wage, which is set by the state, is slated to rise to \$8.75 on Dec. 31 and then \$9 at the end of next year. Gov. Andrew Cuomo has recently opened the door to let cities set their own minimum wage at 30 percent higher than the \$10.10 proposed by President Barack Obama, which could mean a \$13 wage in New York's future.

MIAMI

(Minimum wage is \$7.93)

RENT: The median rent in Miami is \$2,329, according to Zillow.

COFFEE: A large coffee is about \$3.

TRANSPORTATION: Regular gas in Miami costs about \$3.50 a gallon, a basic bus ride \$2.25. Cab fares

are \$2.50 for the first sixth of a mile and then 40 cents per sixth of a mile.

MILK/OTHER: About \$4 a gallon for milk, and a quality sub is about \$8.

CHICAGO

(Minimum wage is \$8.25):

RENT: The median rent price in Chicago is \$1,550, according to Zillow.

GAS: A gallon of regular gasoline surpasses \$4, behind only Los Angeles and San Francisco on a list of major cities.

TRANSPORTATION: A bus fare is \$2. Rides on the El trains are \$2.25.

Mayor Rahm Emanuel has formed a task force to study the minimum-wage issue, and a group of City Council members have already proposed an ordinance to phase in a \$15 wage. Chicago community activists and labor groups are pushing for the city to follow Seattle's lead. At the ballot box in March, Chicago voters backed a \$15 minimum wage in an advisory referendum.

LOS ANGELES

(Minimum wage is \$8)

RENT: A one-bedroom apartment in City Center is \$1,591, while a one-bedroom outside of downtown is \$1,140, according to the Economic Roundtable.

MILK/OTHER: Milk is \$3.96 a gallon. A one-pound loaf of white bread is \$2.21.

TRANSPORTATION: A one-way public transit tickets costs \$1.50.

GAS: \$3.99 a gallon.

The minimum wage in Los Angeles and Los Angeles County is \$8, the

same as the state's. Like the state's, it will increase to \$9 on July 1.

The city minimum wage has exceptions in Long Beach and in Los Angeles by the airport, where hotel workers get more, according to Dan Flaming, president of the Economic Roundtable.

The LA City Council is reviewing a proposal to raise the minimum wage for all hotel workers.

Meanwhile, the AFL-CIO effort has started an effort, still in its infancy, to increase the minimum wage for everyone to \$15, Flaming said.

HOUSTON

(Minimum wage is \$7.25)

RENT: Average rent for a 1-bedroom apartment is \$1,144.

GAS: A gallon of gas is \$3.67.

TRANSPORTATION: A ride on public transit is \$1.25.

MILK/COFFEE/OTHER: A 20-ounce cup of drip coffee at Starbucks sells for \$2.45. A gallon of Walmart-brand milk is \$3.28.

Texas uses the federal minimum wage. An increase in Houston's minimum wage was considered in 1997, but the idea was opposed by business leaders and defeated in a referendum.

The cost of living in the city has remained fairly stable in recent years, but housing prices have felt the pressure of migration into Texas. The Greater Houston Partnership, the local chamber of commerce, quotes a study that says the city is the third-least expensive of the 20 most populous areas in the United States.

Washington think-tank.

“It's going to be this way for a while. We're in a long slog,” Shierholz said, noting that the recession of 2007-2009 was the harshest downturn since the 1930s Great Depression.

“We really are in a recovery. Things are getting better,” Shierholz added. “It is agonizingly slow. But we are going in the right direction.”

It may be quite a while before the jobless rate falls back to 5 percent and below, long the informal standard pegged by economists as a typical employment level for non-recession times.

But 5 percent may no longer be the norm.

In February 2011, economists at the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank suggested that around 6 percent might be a more appropriate unemployment rate as the “new normal.” But some analysts suggested even that target may be unrealistically low.

“Our economy is leaving our unemployed folks further and further behind,” said Robert A. Funk, CEO and Chairman of Express Employment Professional, an Oklahoma City-based service which tries to line people up with jobs and help client companies find suitable employees.

“But if people quit looking for work at a rate like this, it makes our job much, much more difficult,” said Funk, a former chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City.

And while economists note high levels of unemployment among older working-age people, joblessness is disproportionately high among younger workers as well.

Generation Opportunity, a U.S. nonpartisan youth advocacy organization which keeps close track of job levels for younger adults, reported even higher effective unemployment rates for those under 30.

“School is out for summer, and more than four out of five recent grads don't have jobs. My generation deserves better than an economy in which a 15.4 percent effective unemployment rate for 18-29 year olds is considered a good month,” said Patrice Lee, director of outreach for the organization.

growing exodus from the job market of Baby Boomers. Born roughly in the post-World War II period from 1946 to 1964, these workers are now at or fast approaching retirement age.

Another reason is that some employment-intensive industries that suffered the most during the Great Recession, especially in manufacturing and con-

more long-time unemployed workers are abandoning the search for another job and leaving the nation's workforce.

“And they are disproportionately older workers,” Van Horn said. “We have a large number of older (unemployed) workers who are not old enough to retire, yet they are facing discrimination in the workplace and have found it nearly im-

possible to get another job.”

There's a flip side to that, though, Van Horn suggests: “As the economy gets stronger, as it continues to grow, eventually some of those discouraged workers will come back into the labor market, and we'll have a higher labor-participation rate.”

But that hasn't happened—yet.

“We know that the reason unemployment is so high right now is pretty simple: employers haven't seen demand for their stuff pick up in a way that would require them to bring on more workers, put that factory back on line, get more people to work,” said Heidi Shierholz, chief economist for the Economic Policy Institute, a labor-oriented

Campus Life

Palau Community College holds 51st Commencement Exercises

Palau Community College held its 51st Commencement Exercises on May 23, 2014. In attendance were a number of honored guests as well as proud families and friends. A total of 96 graduates were recognized for their academic achievements: 77 PCC graduates, 17 PCC Adult High School graduates, and two graduates of the Palau Community College—Ministry of Health Substance & Abuse Treatment Counseling Program.

The officiators of the ceremony were High Chief Ibedul Yutaka M. Gibbons, Palau's Minister of State Billy G. Kuartei (also the vice chair of the PCC board of trustees), Palau's

Minister of Education Sinton Soalabla, Palau's Minister of Health Gregorio Ngirmang, Fr. Rusk Saburo of the Palau Catholic Mission Church, and Ngeremlengui State Governor Wilson Ongos. PCC board of trustees chair Masa-Aki N. Emesiochl, PCC student trustee Dizzette U. Dolmers, and PCC board members Jemmy Blelai and Dr. Emais Roberts also officiated, along with PCC president Dr. Patrick U. Tellei and PCC dean of Academic Affairs Robert Ramarui.

The event's keynote speaker was Dr. Yimnang Golbuu, CEO of the Palau International Coral Reef Center and the first Pa-

lauan to receive a doctorate in marine science. He is a former instructor of Palau High School and a former researcher for the Cooperative Research & Extension Department of Palau Community College.

Graduate Emily V. Loughlin was the valedictorian of this year. Loughlin graduated with an associate of applied science degree in Nursing.

The recognition of honors and the awarding of degrees followed the speeches. PCC Adult High School graduate Telei Jarvis Marcil was presented with the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award. His fellow Adult High School graduates

Allen Ngiralmu and Marcelino Augustine were given the Exemplary Student Awards.

The Outstanding Student Awards were presented to Emily V. Loughlin, Desiiu D. C. Ngirkelau, Leolin N. Tellei, Daphne J. Nestor, Kerufin Tolngii, Ucheliou A. Filbert, Kornelia I. Thomas, Valerie William, Nicole C. K. Adachi, and Joseph Anastacio.

Anastacio was also the recipient of the Outstanding Citizenship Award.

The Micronesian Occupational College/Palau Community College Alumni Association also presented awards to the graduates for the best grade

point average and best effort.

The MOC/PCC Alumni Award for Best GPA was presented to Kyah M. Remeliik, Emily V. Loughlin, Kamrul Zaman, Nicole C. K. Adachi, Kerufin Tolngii, Desiiu D. C. Ngirkelau, and Joseph Anastacio.

The MOC/PCC Alumni Award for Best Effort was awarded to Shari Megreos, Elaine G. Arurang, Adria I. Demei, Joshua J. Mongkeya, Sixtus Makalul, Kordonvan S. Olkeriil, Joseph Anastacio, Arson Fanglore, and Fabio Siksei.

The Nursing Program graduates were led in their recitation of the Nightingale's Pledge by retired nurse Brenda

R. Ngirmeriil.

Recognized for their membership in the Beta Zeta Chapter - Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society among the graduating class were Leolin N. Tellei, Ucheliou A. Filbert, Kaya M. Solomon, Kornelia I. Thomas, Emily V. Loughlin, Mariah U. Lund, Ciara E. Haruo, Dilmeang Ishim, Nicole C. K. Adachi, Joseph Anastacio, K-La R. Shiro, and Judgewin Daniel.

Following the certification, acceptance, and conferring of degrees/certificates PCC president Tellei certified the graduates of the PCC vocational programs. (PCC)



Members of the Beta Zeta Chapter - Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Palau Community College Adult High School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Palau Community College's Nursing Program for 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Palau Community College School of Business for 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Palau Community College School of Arts & Sciences.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Palau Community College School of Technical Education.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Life & Style

Complaint: Trucker in Morgan crash hadn't slept

Thai beauty queen resigns under social media fire

BANGKOK (AP)—Miss Universe Thailand has resigned less than a month into her reign after being harshly criticized on social media over her political comments and looks.

Weluree Ditsayabut, 22, tearfully announced she was giving up the title that would have allowed her to compete in the international Miss Universe pageant.

The actress and former talk show host said Monday she was initially pleased to have won the title, but that the hail of brutal comments on social media blasting her outspoken political views and calling her fat had hurt her family.

Weluree was criticized for comments she posted on Facebook attacking the "Red Shirt" supporters of the former government, whom she accused of opposing Thailand's monarchy, and calling for the execution of their leaders.

"You Red Shirts, you get out of here," she wrote in mid-November, before winning her title. "Thailand's soil is dirty because of anti-monarchy people like you."

Weluree said that because of the criticism, "the happiness we used to have disappeared totally."

"When I saw my mom not being able to sleep at night,

I couldn't either," she told a news conference. She didn't specify which remarks she found most hurtful.

Weluree's comments struck at the heart of Thailand's long-running political crisis, expressing the attitude of the country's educated elite and royalists toward the government of then-Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Yingluck, who was backed by many in Thailand's rural north and northeast, was forced to step down last month, and the military soon afterward staged a coup against the elected civilian government.



In this photo taken May 17, 2014, Weluree Ditsayabut, center, poses with two runner-ups Pimbongkod Chankaew, left, and Sunnanipa Krissanasuwan, right, after the Miss Universe Thailand beauty pageant competition in Bangkok, Thailand.

Judge: Casey Kasem should be fed, hydrated

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge ruled Monday that Casey Kasem should be fed, hydrated and medicated while a court-appointed attorney evaluates the health of the ailing radio personality after his daughter moved to implement end-of-life measures.

Kasem, who has dementia, was in critical condition in a Washington state hospital.

His daughter Kerri Kasem, who has been placed in temporary control of his treatment, consulted

meets with Kasem and his doctors.

Kasem was admitted to the hospital with an infected bed-sore last week.

Kerri Kasem decided to begin end-of-life measures after doctors determined that feeding



Kasem

and hydrating the celebrity had become increasingly painful, attorney Troy Martin said in court. The judge's ruling is likely to cause the former "American Top 40" host more pain, he said.

Casey Kasem's wife of 34 years, Jean Kasem, appeared in court and said she supported Murphy's ruling and will ask to be restored as her husband's caretaker.

"Only God knows when to take someone," she said.

Outside court, she lashed

out at Kerri Kasem and judges who have criticized her for refusing to cooperate with her stepdaughter, who was named as Casey Kasem's temporary conservator last month after he was moved to Washington state.

"Everybody is standing by and watching her kill my husband," Jean Kasem said after court.

Jean and Kerri Kasem have been fighting in courts in Washington state and Los Angeles over his care.

Jean Kasem has accused Kerri Kasem of trying to hasten her father's death so she could receive her share of his estate, a claim that was denied.

Danny Deraney, a publicist for Kerri Kasem, said she and her siblings have repeatedly said they are only concerned with their father's well-being, not altering his estate plans.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. (AP)—A truck driver accused of triggering a highway crash that injured Tracy Morgan and killed another comedian hadn't slept for more than 24 hours before the accident, authorities said Monday as Morgan recovered in a hospital.

Wal-Mart trucker Kevin Roper is expected to appear in state court Wednesday. It was unclear if Roper, of Jonesboro, Georgia, had retained an attorney. He remained free after posting \$50,000 bond.

Authorities said Roper apparently failed to slow for traffic ahead early Saturday in Cranbury Township and then swerved to avoid a crash. Instead, they said, his big rig smashed into the back of Morgan's chauffeured limo bus, killing comedian James "Jimmy Mack" McNair and injuring Morgan and three other people.

The accident occurred in a chronically congested area of the New Jersey Turnpike where a five-year widening project is expected to finish this year. A turnpike authority spokesman said two of three northbound lanes had been closed about a mile ahead of the accident for road work, which likely slowed traffic.

Spokesman Tom Feeney said

turnpike officials haven't seen an increase in fatal accidents in the construction area, which stretches about 35 miles.

Morgan, a former "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" cast member, was in critical but stable condition Monday. His spokesman, Lewis Kay, said he faces an "arduous" recovery after surgery on his broken leg.

Morgan suffered a broken femur, a broken nose and several broken ribs and is expected to remain hospitalized for weeks, Kay said. Morgan's fiancée was with him at the hospital, he said.

Roper has been charged with death by auto and four counts of assault by auto. Under New Jersey law, a person can be charged with assault by auto if he or she causes injury after knowingly operating a vehicle after being awake for more than 24 hours.

According to the criminal complaint, Roper operated the truck "without having slept for a period in excess of 24 hours resulting in a motor vehicle accident." It doesn't specify the basis for that assertion.

The limo bus' driver, Tyrone Gale, told ABC News he was disoriented after it flipped over.

"I climbed around and heard Tracy screaming for help," Gale said. "I climbed up on the body of the limo bus ... but I couldn't

reach them."

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. President Bill Simon said the Bentonville, Arkansas-based company "will take full responsibility" if authorities determine its truck caused the accident.

Wal-Mart trucks have been involved in 380 crashes in the past two years, federal data show. The crashes have caused nine deaths and 129 injuries. Wal-Mart has 6,200 trucks and 7,200 drivers, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and they drove 667 million miles last year.

Roper's truck was equipped with a system designed to slow its speed and notify him of stopped traffic ahead, a company spokeswoman said. It's unknown if the system was working.

The National Transportation Safety Board is working with state police to look at any issues in the crash related to commercial trucking and limousine safety.

Federal regulations permit truck drivers to work up to 14 hours a day, with a maximum of 11 hours behind the wheel. Drivers must have at least 10 hours off between work shifts to sleep.

Wal-Mart said it believed Roper was operating within federal regulations.

Brad Paisley on patriotism: Support our soldiers

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)—While it's true patriotism means different things to different people in the U.S., country music singer Brad Paisley thinks we can all agree on one aspect: Military personnel should be treated with respect.

This belief spurred two recent actions: Paisley joined President Barack Obama on a trip to Afghanistan to perform for troops and took a moment recently to mock protesters outside a concert in Kansas. Members of the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas, sometimes conduct anti-gay demonstrations at military funerals in opposition to government policies.

"My patriotism starts there," Paisley said in an interview before performing at the CMA Music Festival on Sunday night. "We're talking about, I think everyone can agree—except maybe Westboro Baptist—on the fact our soldiers are our most important, the most amazing people that we've had."

Paisley, who has a new singing contest show, "Rising Star," that begins this month and a new album due in August, traveled to Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan with Obama on May 25. The experience was still fresh when the son of a veteran encountered protesters outside his show June 1.

The 41-year-old West Vir-



Brad Paisley performs during the CMA Music Festival at LP Field on Sunday, June 8, 2014, in Nashville, Tenn.

ginia native took a selfie while making a face with protesters in the background and posted it to Instagram with a mildly profane caption that mocked the church. Paisley says it's a topic he spends time thinking about and wrote a new song, "American Flag on the Moon," that deals with the topic of patriotism for the new album, "Wheelhouse."

"I feel like I'm one of those people that defies category," Paisley said. "I'm all over the map in a lot of ways, but I feel like being on a journey of trying to figure out how to make this country better is a healthy thing and something I like to look into. I don't know any answers to it. But, you know, sort of

daily it's easy to look at something and say here's what you should be doing. It's harder and more of my approach to look at something and say, 'OK, what are both sides.'"

While in Afghanistan in a hangar jam-packed with surprised soldiers, Paisley posed for a picture with Capt. Brandon Archer, who mentioned he'd be shipping out soon and planned to attend CMA Fest.

Archer arrived home last Monday and Paisley invited him and his wife, Jean—the two Army captains are based at nearby Fort Campbell in Kentucky—to visit him backstage. The medevac helicopter pilot arrived with a gift—a small American flag.

Psy goes for ‘Gangnam’ departure with new single

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Even Psy is over “Gangnam Style.”

The ubiquitous 2012 hit is one Psy knows he probably will never top, and that makes creating new music quite a challenge.

“People always comparing my new thing with ‘Gangnam Style,’ which is unbeatable,” Psy said in a recent interview at YouTube Space LA. “That means I have a severe, heavy pressure on my shoulder. ... In that way I don’t like the song.”

The bizarre, colorful video featuring the now-iconic horse gallop dance recently surpassed 2 billion, a record for YouTube. The South Korean pop star also holds the record for most views in a day with 38 million for his “Gangnam Style” follow up “Gentleman.”

The 36-year-old, who was widely famous in Korea before “Gangnam,” remains humble about his relatively new international fame. He admitted he is just as thrilled and surprised as his fans when he’s recognized on the street.

“If I’m walking out and no one’s recognized me and no one is asking me about autograph or photograph that’s a tragedy,” he said. “I should quit my job with that. So sometimes it’s tired, yes of course, but that’s part of my job.”

Psy decided switching genres would be his best bet for another hit with his latest single so he teamed with Snoop Dogg on the hip-hop track “Hangover.” He said the American rapper signed on immediately after only hearing the song’s title.

The “Hangover” video, which debuted Sunday on ABC’s Jimmy Kimmel Live! and Psy’s YouTube channel, serves as a lesson in Asian hangover remedies.

“This video is not about



In this Wednesday, June 4, 2014 photo, South Korean musical performer Psy speaks during an interview in Los Angeles.

dance moves, but it’s about like culture exchanging,” Psy said.

Psy signed with Justin Bieber’s manager, Scooter Braun, after “Gangnam’s” initial success. He said he appreciates Braun’s guidance and impressive drinking abilities.

“He is the most strongest tolerance with alcohol among Americans,” Psy said. “Asians drink really hard and really drinking hard every day. So literally I was kind of like unbeatable person with the alcohol before I meet Scooter.”

Psy will return to his EDM roots on a new EP, due later this

year. But this time he plans to include more English lyrics.

“All the people you know, except Korea, they don’t have any idea what I’m saying right? They’re just waiting for ‘Hey, sexy lady,’ he said of an English lyric from “Gangnam Style.” “I figured out like maybe from now on I should communicate more.”

But for now he’ll continue rapping in his native Korean on Braun’s advice: “He saying, ‘If you are rapping in English we already have so many rappers who’s way better than you. But if you rap in Korean, you’re No. 1 in this country,’ which is really smart.”

Rapper Lil Kim gives birth to girl, Royal Reign

NEW YORK (AP)—Lil Kim has a lil one of her own: The rapper is now a mother.

Lil Kim’s assistant, Noel Perez, confirms that the 38-year-old gave birth to daughter Royal Reign on Monday. It is her

first child.

No more details were given.

Lil Kim’s hits include “Crush on You,” “Not Tonight” and “Magic Stick” with 50 Cent. She won a Grammy in 2002 for her

work on the No. 1 hit “Lady Marmalade” alongside Christina Aguilera, Pink and Mya.

Lil Kim, whose real name is Kim Jones, released a song called “Haterz” in April.

‘Tonight’ show is Christie’s bridge back to comedy

NEW YORK (AP)—If you believe Chris Christie is going to put himself at the mercy of a late-night comic, we’ve got a bridge to sell you.

But it’s true. NBC said Monday that the New Jersey governor is booked to appear on Jimmy Fallon’s “Tonight” show on Thursday, alongside



Christie

comic Chris Rock and musician Kacey Musgrave.

Christie is no stranger to late-night television. He

appeared on Fallon’s “Late Night” three times before the star took over “Tonight” in February. But this is his first foray into late-night comedy since the story about lane closures on the George Washington Bridge became a problem for the Republican governor.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

New Orleans librarian wins \$3,000 prize

NEW YORK (AP)—A New Orleans-based librarian known as “the book lady” for her dedication to her community has won the inaugural Lemony Snicket Prize for Noble Librarians Faced With Adversity. Laurence Copel will receive \$3,000 in prize money for her efforts, which include setting up a library in her own home and riding her bicycle to reach families in need of books. The award, announced Monday, is co-sponsored by the American Library Association and Lemony Snicket author Daniel Handler. The ALA and Handler cited Copel as a librarian who managed difficult times with “integrity and dignity intact.” Her dignity will be tested June 29 at the ALA’s annual conference in Las Vegas. Along with a certificate, she is set to receive “an odd object from Handler’s private collection.”

Glenn Beck: I bought D-Day flag at auction

NEW YORK (AP)—Conservative radio host Glenn Beck says he and his Mercury One charity paid \$350,000

at a Manhattan auction for a U.S. flag that flew over a ship at Normandy on D-Day. Beck announced on his radio show and website that he was the anonymous online bidder who bought the 48-star Navy ensign at a sale of World War II artifacts and memorabilia at Bonhams last Thursday. The tattered flag flew aboard the American-built LST 493 during D-Day operations 70 years ago. It had been estimated to sell for \$25,000 to \$35,000. During Friday’s show, Beck referred to the flag as “the 20th century’s Star-Spangled Banner.”

Halle Berry reaches settlement on child support

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge has approved a settlement between Halle Berry and her ex-boyfriend over child support payments for their 6-year-old daughter. The agreement approved by Superior Court Judge Scott Gordon on May 30 calls for Berry to pay ex-boyfriend Gabriel Aubry \$16,000 a month or nearly \$200,000 a year to support their daughter. The Oscar-winning actress will

also pay for their daughter’s tuition, but the former couple will split health care expenses. The order also calls for Berry to pay her ex-boyfriend a retroactive payment of \$115,000 and \$300,000 to his attorneys to cover the costs of their custody dispute. Berry and Aubry, a model, were involved in a custody dispute in 2012, and a judge blocked her from moving their daughter to France. Gordon’s order only affects child support payments. Berry has an 8-month-old son with her husband, Olivier Martinez.

The play ‘Of Mice and Men’ recoups on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—The play “Of Mice and Men” may not have taken home any Tony Awards but it still has good news to share—it’s in the black. The show starring Chris O’Dowd, James Franco and Leighton Meester said Monday that it recouped its \$3.8 million capitalization in just 12 weeks. The play, adapted by a John Steinbeck novel, follows two tragic migrant workers trying to make their way through the Depression.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: I’m a twice-divorced woman who found my present husband late in life. I’m in my early 60s, and my husband is in his 70s. We married quickly because I didn’t want to be alone in life and I thought I loved him.

My husband works while I stay at home because of a medical condition. Because I get bored, I spend some of my time communicating with and texting male friends from the past and one of my ex-husbands.

We have fun texting and sometimes it goes a little beyond that. I realize I am married and my ex is engaged, but how harmful can this be? I don’t think I’m hurting anyone, and it helps the day go by.

Is this considered cheating? I don’t think it is because my ex and I live in different states and the chances of us ever get-

Woman’s texts to her ex threaten her marriage

ting together again are slim to none.—PASSING TIME

DEAR PASSING TIME: This isn’t harmless fun; it’s a threat to your marriage. Whether I consider it cheating is beside the point. Whether your husband and your ex’s fiancée would consider it cheating is the question. If they got wind of your “pastime,” I suspect both would be hurt, angry and feel violated. Not only that, you could lose Husband No. 3.

DEAR ABBY: My 2-year-old daughter has recently become boob-obsessed. The first thing she does in the morning is point at my chest and say, “Boobs!” If she hugs me, she tries to grab them. Sometimes I catch her staring at my chest in fascination. I scold her when she grabs at them, but it’s disturbing.

I never taught her the word “boob” and feel annoyed that she probably learned it from our sitter. When I spoke to the sitter about it, she laughed and said it’s perfectly normal and that a lot of kids are boob-obsessed. But it doesn’t seem normal to me, and I’m creeped out.

I have started wearing sweatshirts to keep covered up. My

little girl has also started grabbing my butt and lifting up my shirt, and I’m nervous about how she’s acting around the sitter and other women in the family. Is this behavior normal? —CREEPED OUT IN VALENCIA, CALIF.

DEAR CREEPED OUT: Children have been known to act out to get attention. If a parent acts shocked at something the child does or says, the child will repeat the action for its shock value. Because you are concerned that your daughter’s behavior isn’t normal, the person to discuss this with would be her pediatrician. The doctor can put your fears to rest or alert you if there is something to worry about.

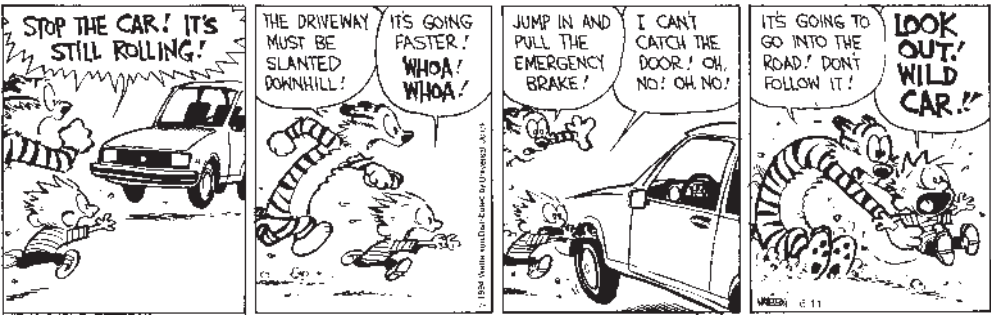
Another thought: Ask your baby sitter to be more circumspect in the language she uses around your child if the word “boob” offends you, because children build their vocabularies repeating the words they hear.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

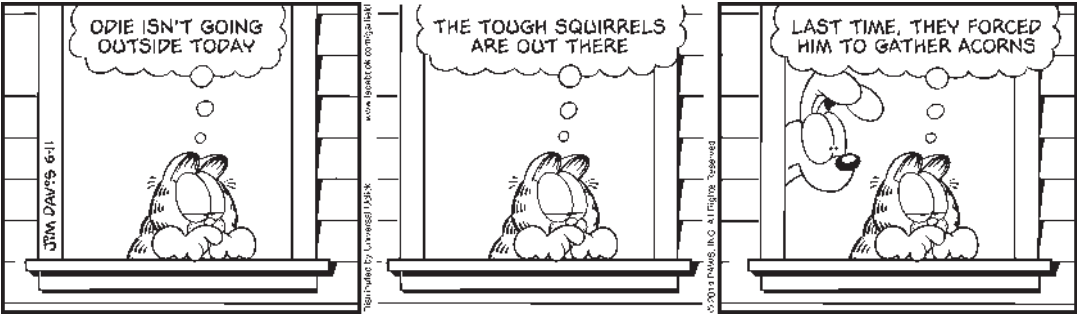
Calvin and Hobbes

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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Nightclub

39 Rather or

59 Cincin-

22 Greatly

23 Automa-

25 Dandy

26 Ms.

27 What

29 Big rig

31 "Alley —"

32 Pair on

34 Mc-

38 Maga-

40 Bracelet

42 Long-

43 Jane

44 Volcanic

45 Nick and

47 Arrive

48 "Zounds!"

49 Without

52 Intent

53 Knock

DOWN

1 —

2 D.C.

3 Saucy

4 Silver, in

5 That

6 Bill-

7 Blunder

8 With

9 Cameo

10 Thought

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16 Exist

20 Feedbag

21 Approach

24 Past

25 Merely

28 Missing

30 Wynken

33 "Believer"

34 Judicial

35 Thee

36 Scratch

37 Teensy

38 World's

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 6-11

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Shia LaBeouf, 28; Peter Dinklage, 45; Hugh Laurie, 55; Gene Wilder, 81.

Happy Birthday: Be ready to initiate change and to follow through with your plans. This is not the year to sit idle when there is so much resting on what you are willing to do in order to advance. Participation should be at the helm of your strategy. Gaining popularity will lead to advancement and prosperity. Personal improvements will pay off. Your numbers are 11, 15, 21, 26, 33, 37, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Size up your situation and do your best to avoid arguments. Listen carefully and be thoughtful in how you respond. You can save money if you look for a way to cut corners at home. Use your attributes to get ahead. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do whatever you can to take care of responsibilities. This is not a day of rest, but one that can determine advancement based on your accomplishments. A moneymaking venture is apparent, but you will have to restrain your spending habits. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't make promises you cannot keep. You'll have to use your time wisely if you want to avoid damaging your reputation. Someone you work with is waiting for a chance to make you look bad. Proceed with caution, integrity and truthfulness. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Share your creative ideas. You have plenty to offer and will stir up some interest in a project

you want to pursue. A proposition will grab your interest, but before you take part, check the fine print and details. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make plans with people you enjoy spending time with. A group of motivated people will help you excel. Step into the spotlight and let your leadership ability take over, but make sure you have a workable plan before you get started. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Follow your intuition when it comes to trust issues within an important relationship. Unnecessary worry could end up being costly. Protect your heart and your reputation. Ask questions and demand answers. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will make a good impression if you offer solutions with a positive attitude. Avoid a rift with someone who is jealous of your insight and vision. Do your thing and finish what you start. Emotional deception is apparent. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be open to suggestions, but when it comes to making a final decision, let your intuition guide you. An unusual change at home will help bring you closer to someone special. Don't donate or pay for someone's way. Offer solutions, not cash. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep everything out in the open and be upfront about your likes and dislikes. You can build a strong and stable personal life if you stick to the truth and only offer what's reasonable. A domestic change will be beneficial. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take one step at a time. Don't reveal too much about your personal life or what you want to pursue. Be cautious in what you say. Minor mishaps or accidents are apparent if you are preoccupied with something that is bothering you. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sign up for a course or interact with people who can offer you information regarding a project you want to pursue. Invest your time and money in something that can bring you money and satisfaction. Home improvement will add to your comfort. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take a closer look at an investment or moneymaking opportunity. You can negotiate a good deal and improve your financial situation. Expand your interests and your peer group. Network and be ready to offer and ask for favors. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are clever, capable and energetic. You are confident and flexible.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			7	5	9	2					
				7			3				
4		6						5			
3	9					7			6		
	1							2			
6	5	8								1	
9	4		8						6		
8					6	1	2				
			3	7							

Difficulty Level ★★

6/11

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	6	8	9	7	5	3	1
3	1	7	2	6	5	9	4	8
5	9	8	4	1	3	6	2	7
6	7	1	3	4	2	8	9	5
9	8	2	1	5	6	3	7	4
4	5	3	7	8	9	2	1	6
1	3	4	6	2	8	7	5	9
8	2	5	9	7	4	1	6	3
7	6	9	5	3	1	4	8	2

Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

KAPPA KAPPA PSI

Solution: 8 letters

Y T L A Y O L A U T I R S F C
N O M E M B E R O N O H R R O
I D E A S K F R A C S E O A L
N L T I U R C E R H T W T T L
E S T R I V E E E E A N R C E E
C A P P A K E D W P S O E R G
N M M I E D U L E T T T R N I
E A O Y R T L A D E N C I A I A
L E O T I I R N I R E E D T T
L T B T T L T O V P D V U Y E
E N T S B O S I O O U A R L S
C A G A L F E T R D T H A E B
X R D S T A R A P I S R U O S
E G E L L O C N M U O D N A B
E N T H U S I A S M U S I C A

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Attitude, Band, Blue, Boom, Chapter, College, Collegiate, Creed, Crest, Crown, Directors, Dues, Enthusiasm, Excellence, Flag, Fraternity, Grant, Honor, Ideas, Kappa, Key, Loyalty, Member, Morale, Motto, Music, National, Nine, Pearl Badge, Podium, Provide, Recruit, Ritual, Scarf, Serve, Spirit, Star, Stillwater, Strive, Students, Team, Vector
Yesterday's Answer: Canadian
Treasury 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contain 130 puzzles.)

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SaipanTribune

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
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Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private
balcony & beautiful view.
\$600/month

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balcony & beautiful view.
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Chisenhall's 9 RBIs lead Tribe past Rangers, 17-7



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Maybe

there's a little Lonnie Baseball to go with Johnny Football in Cleveland.

Lonnie Chisenhall left quite an impression in Johnny Manziel's home state.

Chisenhall had nine RBIs and three home runs in a five-hit game, Michael Brantley scored five times and the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers 17-7 Monday night.

"I know a day like today is kind of a once-in-a-lifetime thing," said Chisenhall, who raised his batting average to .385 but needs more plate appearances to qualify for the league lead. "I'm enjoying it as much as I can. I don't know the history of it, who's done it in the past."

The history is pretty exclusive.

Major League Baseball said it was the first time a player went 5 for 5 with three homers and nine RBIs, since the RBI became a statistic in 1920. He also is only the fourth big leaguer to have at least five hits, nine RBIs and three homers in a game - first since Boston's Fred Lynn in 1975, according to STATS.

"He just wasn't missing," Rangers manager Ron Washington said, who team is winless in the past seven series at home. "Breaking balls, fastballs, it didn't matter."

The only other nine-RBI game in Cleveland history was by Chris James in a 20-6 victory over Oakland on May 4, 1991.

Chisenhall, who had the second multihomer game of his career, finished 10 for 17 with four homers and 13 RBIs in a trip to Texas that ended with Cleveland's first road winning streak of the season.

Before his third homer, Chisenhall and Jason Kipnis danced in the dugout together during a brief break after home plate umpire Jim Wolf was knocked out of the game when he was hit in the mask by a foul ball.

Maybe they knew what was coming.

"As hard as it is to beat those dance moves, his swing was prettier," Kipnis said. "He's attacking the ball right now, and he's swinging at the right pitches and he's learning about himself as a hitter. Right now, he's in one of those zones when he attacks and he's just not missing."

The Indians won three straight in the four-game set after coming to the Lone Star State with the worst road record in the majors. They're headed to Kansas City to continue the first of three 10-game trips this season.

Cleveland hit five homers, won for the ninth time in 10 games and pulled within two games of Detroit just three weeks after trailing by 10 1/2. Chisenhall had two-run homers in the second and fourth innings before hitting a three-run shot down the right field line in the eighth to give the Indians a 17-6 lead.



Cleveland Indians Lonnie Chisenhall follows through on a swing hitting a three run homer during the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Texas Rangers in Arlington, Texas, Monday, June 9, 2014.

It was his second homer off Texas reliever Scott Baker, who was trying to give the Rangers a long outing but allowed 11 hits and nine runs in five innings.

"I mean, he's fouled off about four pitches were out of the strike zone and then just gets something that he can handle," Cleveland manager Terry Francona said. "He feels good about himself. Again, I'm stating the obvious."

Chisenhall had the first three-homer game for the Indians since Sept. 17, 2010, by Shin-Soo Choo, who now plays for the Rangers. The left-handed hitter had an RBI single in the first and a run-scoring double in the sixth.

The homers and RBIs were career highs for Chisenhall. He had five hits earlier this season at Toronto.

White Sox 6, Tigers 5

In Chicago, Jose Abreu hit a two-run homer in a three-run fifth inning as Chicago ended a three-game losing streak with a victory over Detroit.

Gordon Beckham had three hits as the White Sox bounced back from a sluggish trip to Southern California.

Miguel Cabrera, Victor Martinez and Eugenio Suarez homered for the AL Central-leading Tigers, who have dropped seven of nine.

Martinez's two-run shot off Hector Noesi (2-4) trimmed Chicago's lead to 5-4 in the sixth. Ronald Belisario worked a shaky ninth for his sixth save.

Rick Porcello (8-4) struggled through five-plus innings, allowing six runs and nine hits. He also committed a costly throwing error.

Angels 4, Athletics 1

In Anaheim, California, Mike Trout drove in a run with a double that originally was ruled a homer, and Garrett Richards pitched seven strong innings as Los Angeles beat Oakland in the

opener of a series between the top two teams in the AL West.

The Angels' fourth straight victory reduced Oakland's lead 3 1/2 games, but it did not come without some controversy.

Los Angeles manager Mike Scioscia was ejected by first base umpire Bob Davidson in the fifth inning for arguing after a call was overturned on replay.

Oakland manager Bob Melvin challenged Trout's towering drive to right field, believing the ball was touched by a fan at the top of the 18-foot wall. Originally ruled a two-run homer, Trout was awarded an RBI double.

Richards (6-2) allowed a run and four hits with four strikeouts and no walks against an offense that came in leading the majors in runs and on-base percentage. Ernesto Frieri struck out the side for his 11th save.

Jesse Chavez (5-4) yielded three runs—two earned—and eight hits in six innings. A's third baseman Josh Donaldson made three throwing errors.

Mariners 3, Rays 0

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Robinson Cano drove in two runs with a bases-loaded double as Seattle blanked Tampa Bay for the second straight game.

Five Seattle pitchers combined on a five-hitter. The Mariners extended their scoreless streak to 19 innings and won for the eighth time in nine games.

The Rays have lost 13 of 14 and are saddled with the worst record in the major leagues at 24-41. The last time they were 17 games under .500 was the end of 2007, the final year they were known as the Devil Rays.

Cano's big hit came during a three-run third against David Price (4-6), who struck out 10 in eight innings. The 2012 AL Cy Young Award winner has dropped three straight decisions and hasn't won in nine starts.

Joe Beimel (1-1) retired his only two batters and Fernando Rodney worked a perfect ninth for his 18th save in 20 opportunities.

The Rays were shut out for the AL-high ninth time overall. Seattle finished a 6-1 road trip. The Mariners won three straight over Tampa Bay after dropping the opener of the four-game series.

Orioles 4, Red Sox 0

In Baltimore, Bud Norris pitched eight innings of three-hit ball and Adam Jones hit one of Baltimore's three home runs against Boston.

Nick Markakis and Ryan Flaherty also connected for the Orioles. Norris (5-5) struck out six and walked three while matching the longest outing of his career.

Boston has lost six of seven after a season-high seven-game winning streak. The Red Sox have been shut out five times this season.

Jake Peavy (1-4) allowed four runs and eight hits over seven innings. He hasn't won since April 25 against Toronto.

Jones had three hits, including his 150th career homer.

Blue Jays 5, Twins 4

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit a three-run homer in the first inning and Kevin Pillar singled home the winning run in the ninth to lift Toronto over Minnesota.

The first two batters of the game, Danny Santana and Brian Dozier, homered for the Twins off R.A. Dickey, but Encarnacion's 20th of the season soon put Toronto ahead.

Jose Reyes added a solo shot for the Blue Jays, who squandered a two-run lead in the top of the ninth and then recovered to avoid their first three-game skid since May 9-11. Reyes also singled during the winning rally.

Matt Guerrier (0-1) took the loss. Casey Janssen (1-0) got the win after blowing his sec-

ond save.

Newly signed slugger Kendrys Morales made his Twins debut, batting sixth and starting as the designated hitter. He went 1 for 3 with a single and a walk.

Nationals 9, Giants 2

In San Francisco, Ian Desmond had a career-high five RBIs and Stephen Strasburg won his third straight decision in Washington's victory over San Francisco.

Denard Span added a triple and two doubles to help the Nationals win for the eighth time in 10 games. Desmond had three hits and Jayson Werth drove in two runs.

The Giants had their five-game winning streak snapped.

Strasburg (6-4) allowed four hits over six innings and retired his final 10 hitters. He struck out seven and did not walk a batter, improving to 3-0 against the Giants with 29 strikeouts in 25 innings.

Nationals starters have struck out 52 and walked one in their last seven games.

Ryan Vogelsong (4-3) gave up six runs and nine hits in six-plus innings, ending his three-game winning streak.

Dodgers 6, Reds 2

In Cincinnati, Scott Van Slyke drove in a career-high four runs with two homers off struggling left-hander Tony Cingrani as Los Angeles pulled away from Cincinnati for a rare comfortable win in their pitching-dominated series.

Van Slyke hit a solo homer and a three-run shot off Cingrani (2-7), who could lose his spot in the rotation when Mat Latos returns from the disabled list later this week. Cingrani gave up a career-high six runs in 4 2-3 innings for his fifth straight loss.

Dan Haren (6-4) gave up five hits in 5 1-3 innings, including Ryan Ludwick's solo homer, for his first win since May 12.

Brandon League escaped a bases-loaded, no-outs threat in the eighth by getting Ludwick to hit a comebacker that led to a home-to-first double play.

Pirates 6, Cubs 2

In Pittsburgh, Andrew McCutchen homered and drove in three runs to lead Pittsburgh over Chicago.

McCutchen drove a two-run shot to right field in the third inning and added an RBI double in the fifth off Edwin Jackson (4-6).

Charlie Morton (3-7) allowed one run over seven innings to win for the third time in his last four starts after beginning the season 0-6. Ike Davis hit his fifth homer and Starling Marte broke out of a long slump with three hits.

Starlin Castro went 3 for 4 with his eighth home run and two RBIs for the Cubs. Jackson gave up four runs in six innings and is 1-4 since April 30. Chicago fell to 10-22 on the road, the worst mark in the majors.

Braves 3, Rockies 1

In Denver, Gavin Floyd pitched effectively into the seventh inning for his first win since returning last month from reconstructive surgery on his right elbow, leading Atlanta over Colorado.

Floyd, limited to five starts last season with the White Sox before undergoing Tommy John surgery, allowed one run and three hits in 6 2-3 innings for his first victory since beating Cleveland on Oct. 3, 2012.

Signed by Atlanta last December, Floyd (1-2) snapped a career-worst six-game losing streak dating to April 2013.

Chris Johnson had three hits, including two RBI singles, to help the Braves beat the Rockies for the 15th time in 18 games since 2012.

Craig Kimbrel got three outs for his 17th save in 20 chances.

Christian Bergman (0-1) gave up two runs over six innings in his major league debut. Corey Dickerson homered for the Rockies.

Astros 4, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Jose Altuve had three hits, including an RBI double, and Jarrod Cosart pitched six solid innings in Houston's victory over Arizona.

Dexter Fowler also had three hits and scored twice. Cosart (5-5) allowed three runs and five hits. The right-hander struck out eight, matching his career high set in his previous start against the Angels. He retired the first 10 batters, five by strikeout.

The Astros scored their four runs in the first two innings off Josh Collmenter (4-3), who settled down to blank Houston over his final five innings.

Paul Goldschmidt doubled in a run for the Diamondbacks, who had won five of six.

Chad Qualls pitched a scoreless ninth for his eighth save. The Astros have won four of five and 12 of 16.

Donald Sterling says no deal; suit is on



LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling has pulled his support from a deal to sell the team to former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer and will pursue his \$1 billion federal lawsuit against the NBA, his attorney said Monday.

"We have been instructed to prosecute the lawsuit," said attorney Maxwell Blecher. He said co-owner Donald Sterling would not be signing off on the deal to sell.

Donald Sterling issued a one-page statement dated Monday titled "The Team is not for Sale" and said that "from the onset, I did not want to sell the Los Angeles Clippers."

The \$2 billion sale was negotiated by his wife Shelly Sterling after Donald Sterling's racist remarks to a girlfriend were publicized and the NBA moved to oust him as owner.

The lawsuit alleges the league violated his constitutional rights by relying on information from an "illegal" recording that publicized racist remarks he made to a girlfriend. It also said the league committed a breach of contract by fining Sterling \$2.5 million and that it violated antitrust laws by trying to force a sale.

"I have decided that I must fight to protect my rights," Donald Sterling said. "While my position may not be popular, I believe that my rights to privacy and the preservation of my rights to due process should not be trampled. I love the team and have dedicated 33 years of my life to the organization. I intend to fight to keep the team."

Donald Sterling had agreed to ink the deal and drop the suit last week assuming "all their differences had been resolved,"



In this Oct. 17, 2010 file photo, Los Angeles Clippers team owner Donald Sterling watches his team play in Los Angeles.

his attorneys said. But individuals close to the negotiations who weren't authorized to speak publicly said he decided to not sign the papers after learning the NBA won't revoke its lifetime ban and fine.

"There was never a discussion involving the NBA in which we would modify Mr. Sterling's penalty in any way whatsoever. Any suggestion otherwise is complete fabrication," NBA spokesman Mike Bass said.

Shelly Sterling and her attorney Pierce O'Donnell declined to comment through representatives.

Shelly Sterling utilized her authority as sole trustee of The Sterling Family Trust, which owns the Clippers, to take bids for the team and ultimately negotiate a deal with Ballmer. The deal would be record-breaking if approved by the NBA's owners.

An individual familiar with the negotiations who wasn't authorized to speak publicly said Monday that there were two options for Donald Sterling—to either sign or go to court. But even if he wins in court, he's ultimately winning a judgment against himself because his wife Shelly Sterling has agreed to

indemnify the NBA against all lawsuits, including by her husband, the individual said.

Donald Sterling's comments to V. Stiviano included telling her to not bring black people to Clippers games, specifically mentioning Hall of Famer Magic Johnson. They resulted in a storm of outrage from the public and players and even prompted President Barack Obama to comment on what he called Sterling's "incredibly offensive racist statements."

Donald Sterling said in his statement that he was "extremely sorry for the hurtful statements" he made privately but

said them out of anger and jealousy and didn't intend for them to be public.

NBA Commissioner Adam Silver ultimately decided to ban Donald Sterling for life, fine him millions, and began efforts to force Sterling to sell the team. Those efforts ended with Shelly Sterling's deal with Ballmer.

If this deal ultimately goes through, its terms allow Shelly Sterling to remain close to the organization by allowing for up to 10 percent of the team—or \$200 million—to be spun off into a charitable foundation that she would essentially run.

Shelly Sterling and Ballmer would be co-chairs of the foundation, which would target underprivileged families, battered women, minorities and inner city youths.

Under the deal Shelly Sterling would also get the title of "owner emeritus" and be entitled to continuing perks such as floor seats, additional seats at games and parking.

One of the individuals said the deal also includes conditions that allow Ballmer to buy back the 10 percent portion of the team for a pre-designated price upon Shelly Sterling's death.

NBA BRIEFS

Source: Derek Fisher agrees to coach the Knicks

Derek Fisher has agreed to become the next coach of the New York Knicks and will be introduced at a news conference Tuesday morning, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press. The Knicks did not confirm the hiring, other than saying they were planning a "major announcement." The person who confirmed the deal to AP spoke on condition of anonymity because neither side authorized the public disclosure of any information related to the deal. The 39-year-old Fisher just completed his 18th season, finishing his career with the Oklahoma City Thunder. He played under Knicks President Phil Jackson with the Los Angeles Lakers, and helped that franchise win five NBA titles. (AP)

Miami's Wade fined \$5,000 for flopping

MIAMI (AP)—The flop is having an impact on the playoffs, and it's being caught much more than it was in the regular season. Miami guard Dwyane Wade became the latest recipient of a postseason flopping fine Monday when the NBA ordered him to give up \$5,000 after a review showed he over-exaggerated a foul during Game 2 of the finals that was charged to San Antonio's Manu Ginobili. And there's an ironic twist—Ginobili is often considered a master flopper, but he wasn't even warned once about it this season. "He took a swipe and he hit me," Wade said Monday, before the fine was announced. "It was a late call by the ref, but he called it." The league saw it a little differently. It was the fifth flopping violation of the playoffs, which works out to one in every 17.2 games. The NBA said 35 flops were caught in the regular season, or one in every 35.1 games. Players are not fined in the regular season until their second flop of the year; in the playoffs, every flop is a fine.

Heat know Spurs will be inspired in Game 3

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade thinks there's no one better than the Miami Heat at dealing with the mental challenge of the playoffs. In his eyes, only one other team might compare.

He's talking about the San Antonio Spurs.

That's why Wade believes these NBA Finals are just getting started.

When he looks at the Spurs, he sees qualities his own team has, including an ability to break down a loss and quickly correct things. It's what Miami did before Game 2 of the finals and it's what Wade expects the Spurs to do before the title series resumes with Game 3 in Miami on Tuesday night.

"You never put them away," Wade said. "I think they always believe and it's the same with us. You can't, you won't, put us away because we're always going to believe. That's why this is a perfect, different animal, kind of series. They're the other team like us. They don't lose much

and when they do they come back and be better in the next game. So we've got to come out and do the same thing."

That would explain why on Monday, instead of a day off, the Heat gathered to watch video of Game 2.

By winning in San Antonio to even the finals at 1-1, home-court advantage now belongs to the Heat. But no one in their locker room thinks it's going to get easy now.

"They came out great. They played a great game," Spurs guard Tony Parker said after Miami's 98-96 win in Game 2, the 13th straight time the Heat immediately followed a postseason loss with a victory. "Now it's our turn to go over there and get one. We played pretty well all season long on the road and so we're going to have two great opportunities to try to come up with a win."

Miami has won a franchise-record 11 straight postseason games at home.

The last team to win a playoff game in Miami was the Spurs, winning Game 1 of last season's finals.

"We are in a tough situation because we've got to go to Miami and we've got to get one," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said. "We don't want to come back here 3-1 down. It's very hard to overcome that. Definitely going to be a great challenge for the team to play in an arena like that and having to win."

A challenge, sure, but it's one Heat coach Erik Spoelstra knows the Spurs can handle.

"Coming back here there has to be an incredible sense of focus and urgency," Spoelstra said Monday. "They're a veteran, poised, championship-level team that's been through a lot. The crowd won't affect them much."

Neither team thought it played all that well in the game that it won so far in these finals.

The Spurs turned the ball

over too much for their liking in Game 1—the game that will be remembered for the air conditioning malfunction and cramps inside a steamy building forcing LeBron James to leave in the final minutes. In Game 2, the Heat weren't thrilled with a slow start and how they spent much of the game playing from behind.

When James got rolling in the third quarter, things started swinging Miami's way in Game 2. When he found Chris Bosh for the 3-pointer that put Miami ahead for good with 1:18 left, it was just another example of the four-time MVP setting a team-mate up for a big play.

"I'm going to make the right play," said James, who signaled to Bosh about what he wanted on that play. "To have that trust from my teammates, they know when I've got the ball, I'm going to make the right play. Doesn't mean it's going to go in. Doesn't mean it's going to result in a win, but they believe

in my ability."

The pressure, if Miami had not found a way to win in the final moments of Game 2, would have been enormous on the two-time defending champions.

Now, it seems to have shifted to the Spurs.

"It doesn't matter what we've been through before," Spurs forward Tim Duncan said. "We're here now again."

The last time these teams met in Miami at this time of year, the Heat wound up spraying champagne in their locker room.

It's tempting, Bosh acknowledged, to think that all Miami needs to do for a third straight championship is stay unbeaten at home.

But Bosh won't let himself go there.

"I can only think about Game 3," Bosh said. "We've played well at home this postseason. I think we feel we have an advantage now. We have to make sure that we play well and keep it that way."

Ali'i, Gwap Gang clinch semis berths

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

DLX Ali'i and Gwap Gang bagged the first two semis spots

in the 2014 DLX/IT&E Invitational Basketball League after pulling off similar close wins last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court to march into the quarterfinals.

Gwap Gang advanced first in the semifinals after edging and dethroning 2013 champion San Roque in the curtain-raiser, 69-66, while Ali'i followed suit with a 67-64 victory over the ICS Shooters in the second



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ali'i's Raymond Velasco, left, and Bart Demapan, right, plays tough defense on a driving Cecilio Bisana of ICS Shooters. Demapan went on to block Bisana and help Ali'i pull off a 67-64 win in their playoff game in the DLX/IT&E caging last Monday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

KIM

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and William Retardo (79).

Meanwhile, five other golfers were named champions in their respective flights. The list includes A Flight's Shi Feng Jin, B's Dong Young Lee, C's Sung Nam Park, Senior's Toshiyuki Mori, and Ladies Sherlyn Jones.

Jones beat Yong Sook Kwon in a tiebreak after both players registered a net 71. The two golfers also had similar gross scores of 83 with Jones recording a 43 and 40 on the front and back nines, respectively,

and Sook tallying a 44 and 39. Jeong Yoon Kim rounded out the Top 3 with her net 71.2. Kim had the gross score in the 17-player Ladies Flight with her impressive 2-under par 70 (even par 36 on the front and 2-under par 34 on the back nine).

In the A Flight, Jin won by seven strokes against Tsukasa Kuribayashi and Jun Sik Kim, who had identical gross scores of 80. Jin fired a 39 in the first nine holes and finished strong with a 2-over par 34 in the last nine for a 1-over par 73. Kim had 40 on both nines, while Kuribayashi logged 43 and 37.

In the B Flight, Dong Young recorded a 2-over par 74 for a three-shot win against Soon Ho Yang and Medson Ladore, who had similar gross scores of 77. Yang won the tiebreak against Ladore to take runner-up honors.

In the C Flight, Sung Nam Park also earned a three-stroke victory over Namki Kim, as the former had a gross score of 80 (40 and 40) against the 83 (41 and 42) of the latter. Frank Rosario completed the Top 3 with a gross 89, built from a 43 on the front nine and 46 on the back.

In the Senior Flight, it was a close flight among the Top 3

match of the night.

Ali'i delivered in the home-stretch, making clutch baskets and free throws, offensive rebounds, and defensive stops to eliminate ICS and extend its streak this season to six after a 5-0 sweep of the regular season.

Down 61-64, going into the last two minutes of the match, Bart Demapan converted a quick turnaround jumper to move Ali'i within 1, while Ivan Devero also hit a short jumper to put the team on top. Before Demapan and Devero's baskets, Ali'i and ICS traded misses for more than one minute with Keoni Chariton faltering on a baseline drive and Leo Galarse on his scoop shot, while Errol Peredo doing it on the other end for Ali'i.

After Peredo's second muffed shot, Demapan went for a put-back, but also had no success. Fortunately, Raymond Velasco collared the second rebound for Ali'i and was fouled, 28.5 seconds left on the clock. Ali'i sued for time and when the game resumed De-

vero went for an isolation play from the left key before pulling up for the go-ahead jumper against Don Brennan and Cecilio Bisana, 65-64, 18.1 seconds remaining in the game.

Now behind, it was ICS' turn to call a time out, but failed to execute in the crucial stage of the match. Bisana drove strong to the basket against Velasco and Demapan, but was blocked by the latter. ICS kept possession with Galarse doing the inbound play and passing the ball to Djay Ong, who moved out of the paint and was tightly guarded by Peredo. The Marianas High School standout then leaned in past Peredo's defense for a shot, but his attempt hit nothing but air and the ball went out to the baseline. ICS contested the leather was partially blocked by Peredo, but the referee saw otherwise, awarding possession to Ali'i.

A quick foul on Galarse after the Ali'i inbound play sent Kobe Mendoza to the 15-foot line with six seconds left. Mendoza made his first free throw and missed the second, but again Velasco was there for the offensive board and was fouled, too. Velasco banked in the first charity for the insurance and intentionally muffed the second, giving players just three seconds left to fight for the rebound. Galarse won the battle, but ICS ran out of time and did not even make an attempt as the ball was still in the backcourt.

Meanwhile, Gwap Gang also scored clutch baskets to thwart San Roque.

Dixon Kwon drilled all his three points in the closing seconds of the quarterfinal game, while Shane Deleon Guerrero had split free throws, as they combined for the last four markers of Gwap Gang.

Gwap Gang and Ali'i now wait for the winners of the Hite-I Love Saipan and Saipan Ice-Flip Top playoff matches to start the round-robin semis this weekend. The Top 2 teams in the semis will collide in the championship round. The two remaining quarterfinal games will be played tonight.

First Game

Gwap Gang 69 – Deleon Guerrero 11, Vertudez 10, Sacramento 10, Rabasto 9, Darag 9, Yap 5, Fitial 5, Ano 4, Kwon 2, Dela Rosa 2.

San Roque 66 – De Guzman 21, Guiab 11, Guiang 10, Mendoza 7, Salazar 6, Barrios 3, Odista 3.

Scoring by quarters: 22-19, 34-33, 49-53, 69-66.

Second Game

Ali'i 67 – Devero 18, Mendoza 16, Peredo 11, Velasco 6, De Leon 4, De Dios 3.

ICS Shooters 64 – Ong 14, Galarse 12, Brennan 11, Bisana 10, Inos 7, Namelo 4, Chariton 2, Ritual 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-19, 35-30, 45-46, 67-64.

CNMI

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sweep Guam' Josh Tan, 6-0, 6-2, and then finished his second match earlier (38 minutes), dominating Dwigh Esau, 6-0, 6-0. Ramsey shared the Day 1 lead with former CNMI player Chris Cajigan.

Meanwhile, the Commonwealth's female players also did well against Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau junior netters in the opening day of the regional championships.

In the girls U12, Malika Miyawaki blanked Riddiane Wolphagen, 6-0, 6-0, in Pool

A, while Jireh Warren is in the same group and pulled off an upset against the fourth-seeded Anne Skilling, 6-4, 6-1. In Pool B, Conatsu Kaga prevailed over teammate Asia Raulerson, 6-2, 6-0.

Alina Ishikawa posted the CNMI's second shutout victory in the girls division af-

ter she whipped Anika Sachdev in the girls U14's Pool A match. Mimi Sakano also triumphed in Pool A, stunning fourth-ranked Kanasta Abrams, 6-4, 6-4. In Pool B, Tania Tan and Ami Tsugagoshi defeated Sunshine Palik, 6-0, 6-2, and Victoria Smith, 6-1, 6-1.

MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)—Ben Crane won the St.

Jude Classic on Sunday for his first PGA Tour title since 2011, closing with a 3-over 73 for a one-stroke victory.

Crane went wire to wire for his fifth career victory. He played 30 holes on the last day because of rain delays at TPC Southwind, finishing the final 12 holes of his third-round 69 in the morning to take a three-shots lead into the final round.

He two-putted for bogey on the final hole to finish at 10-under 270.

Troy Merritt was second after a 71. Webb Simpson (65), Matt Every (70) and Carl Pettersson (69) were 8 under, and Ian Poulter had a 64 to tie for sixth at 7 under.

Phil Mickelson, among those tuning up for the U.S. Open at Pinehurst, left winless in his 20th event since the British Open. He tied for 11th at 6 under after a 72.

Consecutive birdies on Nos. 11 and 12 put Mickelson at 8 under. But he bogeyed the next two, including the par-3 14th where he hit a 7-iron into the

water in front of the green. He still finished much better than his tie for 49th at Memorial last week after an

early visit from FBI agents and lingering questions about an insider-trading investigation.

"The way I drove the ball last two rounds I had an opportunity to shoot really low," Mickelson said. "My iron play was poor, and my putting was pathetic. I'll have to make some changes and to get ready for next week. But the game is not far off because I'm driving the ball very well and putting it in play."

Wind, thunderstorms, lightning and fog have delayed play each of the first three days. With more storms forecast, players started the final round almost immediately after concluding the third. They finished without single delay Sunday as the sun even came out as this tournament finished its 57th year without being shortened because of weather.

Crane opened with a 63 on Thursday and used strong putting and few mistakes to keep the lead. He had three bogeys in the final round, one more than he had through 54 holes.

GROUP G

From Page 28

finish (1930) and the Americans will aim to better that performance this year—without the country's first player to score 50 goals in international tournament—Landon Donovan.

The three-time World Cup veteran was excluded on the World Cup roster of new coach Jurgen Klinsmann after Donovan suited up for the Americans in the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup, which they won over Panama, 1-0. Donovan scored five goals in the zone championship, including two in their 3-1 semis conquest of Honduras.

With the Americans, who also topped the qualifying in

their zone, questionably passing up on Donovan, Jozy Altidore, Clint Dempsey, Chris Wondolowski (who took Donovan's spot), and Michael Bradley will have to step up big time to prove Klinsmann's move is not a blunder. Without Donovan, only five (including goalkeeper Tim Howard) players from the team's 2010 roster are back on the squad this year, making the Star and Stripes an inexperienced squad.

Ghana is bringing familiar faces, who for two straight times (2006 and 2010) helped the team become the only African squad to survive the group stage.

Making it three in a row could be a daunting task. However, Ghana's outstand-

ing showing in the 2012 Africa Cup of Nations and qualifying proved the Black Stars are up for the job.

Ghana was a semifinalist in the zone championship, losing to eventual champion Zambia in the semis. In the zone qualifying, the Black Stars finished with a second field-best 6-0-2 win-draw-loss record. Young guns Andre Ayew, Kwadwo Asamoah, Asamoah Gyan and Kevin-Prince Boateng are Ghana's anchor on offense, while returnees Michael Essien and Sulley Muntari will provide leadership on the squad.

Interestingly, Gyan and Black Stars will be in Brazil to prove that they can make it 3-0 against the Americans after a 2-1 victory in the group

stage in 2006 and another 2-1 win in the Round of 16 in 2010. Gyan scored the go-ahead goal in Ghana's triumph in South Africa after Donovan hit the equalizer. Boateng nailed the other goal.

Also hoping to stretch its streak is Germany, who is 3-0 against Portugal since 2006. The Germans won the battle for third place in the 2006 World Cup, 3-1, and also prevailed in the Euro 2008 quarterfinals, 3-2, and Euro 2012 third place match, 2-1.

The face-off is not limited to the four teams, as it is extended to coaches, too. Klinsmann was Germany's coach from 2004 to 2006 and will be colliding against Low, the U.S. mentor's former lieutenant.

Tsunami Saipan at 2014 Guam Swimming Championships

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura races against Tsunami Guam's Stephen Jagger in the 50m butterfly event in the 2014 Guam Swimming Championships held late last month at the Hagatna Swimming Pool.



Tsunami Saipan's Sophia Gauran competes in the 50m butterfly swim.



Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero poses with his runner-up medal in the boys U8 division.



Tsunami Saipan's Anthony Camacho-Deleon Guerrero races in the 50m breaststroke.



Tsunami Saipan's Nanaka Watanabe participates in the 50m breaststroke race.



Tsunami Saipan's Juhn Tenorio competes in the 100m breaststroke.



Tsunami Saipan's Ashley Dangol poses with her runner-up medal in the girls U8 age group.



Tsunami Saipan's Miku Tammy waits at the starting block, while Kensuke Kimura also lines up for the next race.



Tsunami Saipan's Takumi Sugie sprints in the 50m butterfly race.



Tsunami Saipan's Nanaka Watanabe, who topped the girls U8 division, poses with teammate Hans Xu.

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says no deal;
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Chisenhall's 9
RBIs lead Tribe
past Rangers,
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Kim dethrones Lee in HANMI Golf Classic



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Gi Yeong Kim avenged his 2012 loss to Geon Ju Lee after ruling the Championship Flight in the 13th Annual HANMI Charity Golf Classic Tournament held last Saturday at the Marianas Country Club.

Kim shot a 2-over par 74 to prevail against eight other golfers entered in the centerpiece flight. He won by only one stroke against Lee, who prevailed in the previous two editions of the annual competition, downing Kim in 2012 and Joung Hoon Park and Jeff Taylor in a tiebreak last year.

This year's winner was decided on the back nine with Kim having a 2-over par 38 against the 4-over par 40 of Lee, who took a shaky one-stroke lead after completing the front nine with a 1-under par 35 against the former's even par 36.



With their Top 2 finish, Kim and Lee received trophies and other prizes during the awards ceremony at the Pacific Islands Club last Saturday. Joining them in the podium was third placer Park, who also carded a 3-over par 75, but lost in the tiebreak to Lee.

J.J. Atalig also registered a 3-over par 75, but dropped to fourth in the tiebreak. Other Championship Flight participants were Seung Woo Kang (76) Sung Bag Jun (77), Adam Hardwicke (78), Taylor (78),

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Group G: Extremely tough pool

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Group of death or not, a pool that has Germany, Portugal, U.S., and Ghana is definitely not on any World Cup-bound team's wish list.

A website (MLS.soccer.com) reported last week that the latest FIFA rankings made Group D as the new "group of death," but Group G remains to be the toughest among the eight groups. The No. 2 Germany, No. 4 Portugal, No. 13 U.S. and No. 37 Ghana have an average ranking of 14, just half a point behind Group D (No. 7 Uruguay, No. 9 Italy, No. 10 England, and No. 28 Costa Rica).

Group G teams' history in the World Cup, notable performance in their respective confederation and qualifying tournaments, presence and absence of key players, and familiarity make this bracket a very interesting one.

The Germans won the Cup three times (1954, 1974, and 1990) and in the last three editions of the tournament, the Die Adler had advanced to the finals once (2002) and to the semis twice (2006 and 2010).

In the Euro 2012, Germany also qualified in the semifinals before losing to eventual runner-up Italy in the Final Four, 1-2. In the World Cup quali-

fier, the Germans won nine games with no loss, scoring a zone-best 36 goals. Goalkeeper Manuel Neuer and rising star Mesut Ozil suited up for the Germans in Euro 2012 and qualifying and are back in Brazil to team up with Thomas Muller and several other young and promising players of coach Joachim Low, who will be missing midfielder Marco Reus (ankle injury).

Portugal also barged into the semifinals of the Euro 12, losing to eventual champion Spain in a shootout, 2-4. As for their World Cup record, the Portuguese are making their sixth appearance in the event after passing the group stage in 2010. In 2006, Portugal, which had its best finish in the World Cup in 1966 (third) was in the semifinals and lost to France.

Leading Portugal's side is no other than Cristiano Ronaldo, who scored three goals (the most and tied five other play-

ers) in Euro 2012. Ronaldo is still recovering from a left thigh injury and knee tendinitis on the same leg and if he fails to get well fast, Portugal will need solid games from Pep, Bruno Alves, Joao Pereira, and Fabio Coentrao to live up to its lofty billing.

Like Portugal, the United States' best showing in the World Cup was a third place

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3 CNMI jr. players perfect in opener

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CNMI junior tennis players Robbie Schorr, Luther Liza-ma, and Colin Ramsey were flawless in the opening day of the 2014 North Pacific Regional Championships.

Schorr is entered in the boys U12 singles and went 2-0 in Pool A. He recorded his first victory against Aaron Abrams, 6-1, 6-1, before earning a similar easy win over the fourth-seeded Justin Kim in the afternoon match, 6-1, 6-2, at the Rick Ninete Tennis Center in Guam last Monday. The top-ranked Commonwealth bet was slated to play two more games yesterday with the first one against Deavyn Etscheit and the second versus Andrew Leng. Schorr will then close out the pool play with a duel against the unseeded Freddy Jerson. One more victory will assure Schorr a spot in the quarterfinals, as Round of 8 slots are given to the Top 4 finishers in each pool.

Schorr's two other teammates are in Pool B with the second-ranked Ken Song winning his first match and the third-picked Aditya Rai splitting his first two games. Incidentally, Song's lone win in Day 1 was against



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Robbie Schorr, seen here making a return from the baseline during a game in the 2014 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships at Kanoa Resort, was one of the three Commonwealth players who posted a 2-0 record in the opening day of the 2014 North Pacific Regional Championships in Guam.

Rai, 6-3, 6-1. Rai then bounced back with a 6-0, 6-1 triumph over Moses Segal in the afternoon match.

In the boys U14 singles, Lizama won the battle of seeded players, as the second-ranked CNMI bet downed No. 3 Samuel Nillasca at the Hyatt Regency court, 6-2, 6-1. Lizama returned to the same venue in the after-

noon and clobbered James Hourican, 6-0, 6-0, to join the unranked Kevin Zhou in the early lead in Group B.

In the boys U16 singles, Ramsey dispatched his first two opponents with each match lasting no more than one hour. He took only 50 minutes to

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